

## TRANSCRIPT

### Interview with Bob Ellis, plus talkback

### Topic: His claim that Newspoll is deliberately working against Mark Latham

Adelaide

891ABC – David Bevan and Matthew Abraham program  
8.50am

Tuesday, September 07, 2004

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BEVAN:

If you've been listening to ABC radio news this morning, or you've been looking at the front pages of perhaps the Sydney Morning Herald or The Australian, you would see that the Coalition has had a boost in support in the polls. Bob Ellis is an ALP member, he's a commentator, an election-watcher and author, and sometimes commentator.

ABRAHAM:

And former candidate against Bronwyn Bishop.

BEVAN:

That's right, and speechwriter at times, although in this campaign, Bob tells me he's actually helping Brian Deegan, the independent who is going for the seat of Mayo up in the hills against Alexander Downer. Good morning, Bob Ellis.

Bob, who do you say Mark Latham is actually fighting in this election? Is it John Howard?

ELLIS:

No, it's Newspoll. Newspoll is a phone poll that doesn't ring mobile phones, thereby ignoring 50% of the electorate and rings at home on Friday night – the old, the sick, the poor, the friendless, the ugly, who surprisingly favour John Howard. Because it doesn't ring mobile phones the Labor vote in Newspoll always slumps at Christmas when the semi-prosperous middle classes are on holidays, in motels or caravans or on boats and miraculously revives in February when they come home. Because it doesn't ring mobile phones, it put the Coalition's winning margin in 2001 at 8%, when it was only 1.6%.

BEVAN:

But, Bob Ellis are you saying that the poor, the sick and the ugly don't find some comfort in Labor?

ELLIS:

Well, they should be they are under-informed, particularly by Newspan.

ABRAHAM:

But, the Bulletin poll though, the Morgan poll, is face to face. I don't think we've seen that one yet, but they door knock, would that be...?

ELLIS:

Well, it may well be better but they draw squares on the map and so they say 'this is a working class area and this is a middle class area', but as you know that's no longer as it was 20 years ago. So, you know, you have a very big mix and that can be inaccurate as well.

ABRAHAM:

It's an interesting issue on mobile phones. It's an interesting issue as to whether the owners are ugly or beautiful.

ELLIS:

Well, there's a lot of young and mobile and prosperous and interesting people that are clearly not being rung, particularly on Friday nights, I'd say and on Saturday nights. Now, how can you say that's a fair thing? I mean, what worries me is that Newspan always mysteriously gives John Howard the good news when he needs it. A week ago it said at the very weekend when Howard was most thought a liar, that 200,000 Labor voters decided to vote for him. Do you know any of these people? I don't.

BEVAN:

Well, our phone lines are open. If they are out there.

ABRAHAM:

What do you think about opinion polls? Bob Ellis thinks basically they're dodgy.

BEVAN:

Do you trust them?

ABRAHAM:

Bob Ellis, why single out Newspan?

ELLIS:

I've been watching it for many years and they tend to do it and I was particularly enthused by the fact that on the great weekend when the entire nation was protesting against the coming war in Iraq, Newspoll showed that Howard's vote had gone up by 4% and I rang up Sol Lebovic's boss and said: 'did you make allowance for the fact that when you rang at least 4% of the electorate was at the demonstration?' And, he said: 'no', and I said: 'do you ring mobile phones?' He said: 'no', and I thought: 'oh my God', you know.

Interview ends.

TALKBACK:

CALLER YVONNE:

I wonder too then if the stats are so bad on ringing mobile phones or not, do they actually ring country people which might be a Liberal stronghold and actually favour the Coalition more? If Bob Ellis's argument is that they don't ring mobile phones and must exclude 50% of the population, it probably could be argued that country people are not being polled as well and that that section of the community is not being examined and country people generally have a conservative vote. I think his argument is just arrogant.

CALLER PAUL:

I own a mobile phone and I'm actually healthy, wealthy and wise and absolutely good looking. I just wondered with the comment that he made that the poor, sick and ugly are not attracted to Labor seems a bit strange really. Isn't that they're more traditional; they are meant to be the more traditional compassionate party?

BEVAN:

Well, yes, I found it odd that he would say that the poor, sick and ugly don't find any comfort with the ALP.

CALLER JOHN:

I wonder why you guys waste airtime with Bob Ellis. The guy is a miserable individual. He's a failed author, he's an apologist for the Labor Party. I own three mobile phones, I have a home phone. At the end of the day there's one poll that counts and let's focus on that.

CALLER GLENN:

If the unattractive and disadvantaged people vote Liberal, doesn't that mean that he should by his own logic?

ENDS

To Mums all over the world, thankyou.

Mum and Dad were watching TV when Mum said, I'm tired, and it's getting late. I think I'll go to bed."

She went to the kitchen to make sandwiches for the next days lunches. Rinsed out the popcorn bowls, took meat out of the freezer for dinner the following evening, checked the cereal box levels, filled the sugar container, put spoons and bowls on the table and started the coffee pot for brewing the next morning.

She then put some wet clothes in the dryer, put a load of clothes into the washing machine, ironed a shirt and secured a loose button.

She picked up the game pieces left on the table, put the phone back on the charger and put the telephone book into the drawer.

She watered the plants, emptied a rubbish bin and hung up a towel to dry. She yawned and stretched and headed to the bedroom.

She stopped by the desk and wrote a note for the teacher, counted out some cash for the field trip, and pulled a text book out from hiding under the chair.

She signed a birthday card for a friend, addressed and stamped the envelope and wrote a quick note for the grocery store. She put both near her purse.

Mum then washed her face with 3in1 cleanser, put on her Night solution & age fighting moisturiser, brushed and flossed her teeth and filed her nails. Dad called out, "I thought you were going to bed." "I'm on my way," she said.

She put some water into the dog's dish and put the cat outside, then made sure the doors were locked and the patio light was on.

She looked in on each of the kids and turned out their bedside lamps and TV's, hung up a shirt, threw some dirty socks into the hamper, and had a brief conversation with the one up still doing homework.

In her own room she set the alarm, laid out clothing for the next day and straightened the shoe rack. She added 3 things to her 6 most important things to do list. She said her prayers and visualised the accomplishment of her goals.

About that time, Dad turned off the TV and announced to no one in particular, "I'm going to bed." And....he did.....without another thought.

Anything extraordinary here???

Wonder why women live longer...???

'CAUSE WE ARE MADE FOR THE LONG HAUL....(and we can't die sooner, we still have things to do!!!!)

Send this on to the mums you know; Then:GO TO BED. Cheers, Trish.

**The Dedication of Chris Evans Knows no Bounds. While Being Sucked into the Shredder he Made not a Sound in Order not to Disturb Ben Martin on a Telephone Call so that Members of the Public Would not be Alerted or Alarmed**



# The Economist

January 2003

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## Trish Draper MP. The world awaits your decision.



Australia...	A\$7.95 (inc. GST)	HK	HK\$4.50	Korea	Won 6,500	New Zealand	R259.00	Sri Lanka	Rs 250
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sing "Happy Birthday, Mr Premier" on the night?

## Nothing to crow about



**You're necked:** Crows fan Trish Draper

IN theory, members of the House of Representatives owe allegiance only to their electorates and are addressed as such: the Constitution doesn't recognise parties, even if the Electoral Commission does. So **Trish Draper**, the federal Liberal member for the Adelaide seat of Makin, should have known she was out of bounds when she put a red and yellow Adelaide Crows football scarf around her shoulders to celebrate the AFL team's latest win as she rose to ask a question in parliament yesterday. Speaker **David Hawker** ruled the scarf breached parliamentary dress codes and ordered it taken off, as if MPs don't have enough to argue over. Draper was in the process of handing Vocational Education Minister **Gary Hardgrave** a free kick, inviting him to give, as he did, figures on a rise in apprenticeships in her seat. Draper says she called Hawker later and told him it was chilly in Canberra and "that as it was the only scarf I had with me . . . I should be allowed to wear it". Trish, can't your side just turn up the heat in the house? Hawker replied, she says, by saying he didn't want football fever getting out of control as grand finals near, with MPs wearing their Aussie rules or rugby league team's colours. The Crows next meet West Coast in a preliminary final in Perth on Saturday.



**PRESSURE:** Trish Draper with her son, Chris Evans, at a post-election barbecue yesterday.

Zappia - who was surrounded by his extended family at a barbecue at home yesterday - pointed to a large swing against the Liberals.

"We always knew preferences would determine the outcome," he said.

Mr Zappia said he would "not close the door" to any

future political opportunities, but did not have any particular intentions at this time.

"I'm still the Mayor of Salisbury, so I will continue to represent the Salisbury community until the next (2006) election," he said.

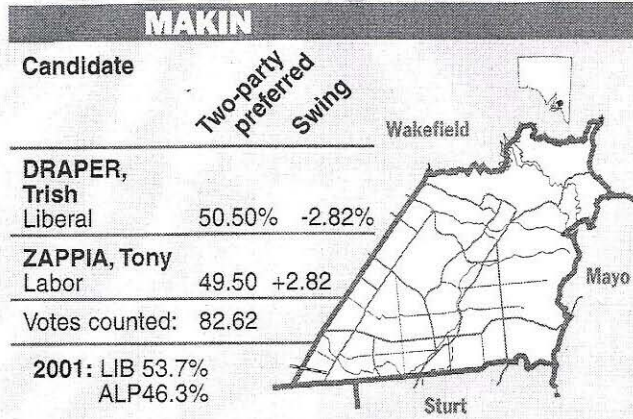
Mr Zappia was extremely disappointed that many

Australians would miss out on the "visionary" policies put forward by Labor.

His wife, Vicki, 46, said the whole family was happy with the campaign.

"If he wants to go through this again, we will be there for him," she said.

State Labor Party secretary Ian Hunter said Mr Zappia had made up for Labor's "under-performance" in the seat at the 2001 election, largely due to his strong community links and support. He was precisely the type of candidate the party would continue to recruit.



# MP for jerseys

NO-ONE can argue the Liberal Member for Makin, **Trish Draper**, does not make good use of her seating position just behind Prime Minister **John Howard** and senior ministers. By virtue of holding a marginal seat, Ms Draper has guaranteed television coverage every time the cameras are on the PM or anyone else speaking at the box.

Although dress standards are fairly strict in the house, it did not stop Ms Draper wearing a Crows scarf into Parliament after the team's 1997 Grand Final win over St Kilda.

She removed it reluctantly on the orders of St Kilda fan and then Speaker **Bob Halverstam** following complaints by Victorian MPs. Not to be deterred, Ms Draper late last year appeared in an autographed Hockeyroos T-shirt to highlight the success of that team and on Wednesday this week, was sporting a Modbury Jets soccer club top.

Modbury is one of the two soccer clubs in her electorate which will host some of the Olympic soccer teams playing in Adelaide. Ms Draper says the other club is Para Hills and she would gladly wear one of its jerseys as well. Makes one wonder what would happen if a team from her electorate ever won an event at the nude Olympics.



**SUPPORTER:** Trish Draper, sports fan.

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□ Sp

SPICE the boy out, Sp more I o so it's re ing to t nice."

J, who how he because success On Mov Awards

Mel a be comp

□ The koala who came for

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