

From: [INFO](#)
To: [Peter Dempster](#)
Subject: RE: [QUESTION General] Dempster, Peter (2000) *WWW* [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 23 September 2020 9:38:19 AM

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your email.

The AEC only conducts federal elections. There is nothing in the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (Electoral Act) that makes it unlawful for an elector to photograph their own ballot paper and to post an image of that marked ballot paper online. This is consistent with the view that an elector is always free to disclose how they marked their ballot paper and this does not infringe against the secrecy of the ballot. Electors are clearly able to lawfully participate in opinion polls conducted before an election (i.e. how they intend to vote) or how they have actually voted in an election (e.g. an exit poll).

Please contact the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC) for any information about the NSW electoral legislation.

Yours sincerely,

Angela | Public Enquiries Officer
Australian Electoral Commission
Ph: 13 23 26 or 61 2 6160 2600 (if calling from overseas)

From: <personal email deleted> **Sent:** Tuesday, 22 September 2020 6:31 PM
To: INFO <info@aec.gov.au>
Subject: [QUESTION General] Dempster, Peter (2000) *WWW* [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Form submitted: 22/09/2020 06:31 PM

I have an enquiry

Category General

Contact details

Given name(s): Peter
Surname: Dempster
Email: <personal email deleted>
Phone number: <personal number deleted>
Postcode: 2000

Enquiry details

To what extent is photography permitted in a polling station? For example, can I take a photo of my completed ballot and upload to social media? Could I video my placing of my ballot in the ballot box? What about postal votes?

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