



Objection 445

Anonymous 27

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Dear Redistribution Committee,

I strongly oppose the removal of Fitzroy North, Carlton North, Princes Hill from Melbourne. I write to you as a resident of the current electorate of Melbourne.

The main two reasons I believe that these suburbs should not be removed from the electorate of Melbourne are as follows:

1. As a Jewish resident of Melbourne, I have felt increasingly disenfranchised from certain local communities and councils (such as Merri-Bek) especially since the October 7th attacks. Walking through the Northern suburbs, particularly Brunswick West, Brunswick, and Brunswick East—areas within the Electorate of Wills—I often feel disproportionately targeted or misrepresented. The streets are frequently adorned with antisemitic stickers, creating an unwelcoming and hostile environment. I wish to feel connected and safe in my electorate, but I worry that these proposed changes in divisions might impede upon my safety and hinder my sense of security within my own electorate. I don't want to be moved there.
2. During this challenging time, I have found a deep sense of connection and meaning in attending the East Melbourne synagogue, which is one of the few synagogues I can easily access via public transport from the north. This synagogue has been a vital source of community and support for me. Knowing there is a synagogue within my electorate where I can practice my faith and stay connected to my cultural identity is crucial for my sense of security and belonging. Unfortunately, there is no synagogue in the electorate of Wills - nor are there any further north of East Melbourne synagogue - which diminishes my sense of comfort in the new electorate redistribution and limits my connection to my community.

Ultimately, the proposed changes to the Division of Melbourne are not demonstrative of my community and faith. I respectfully submit that the changes should be rejected.

Thank you for taking the time to look at this submission.