# Foreign Minister Penny Wong’s comments on Voice to Parliament spark controversy ahead of election



Foreign Minister Penny Wong’s recent claims that establishing a Voice to Parliament is “inevitable” have ignited controversy just days ahead of the Australian federal election, revealing the Labor government’s persistent disconnect from public sentiment. Speaking candidly on the Betoota Talks podcast, Senator Wong likened the divisive Voice debate to the contentious battle for marriage equality, suggesting Australians will one day wonder why they ever opposed it. "I always used to say, marriage equality, which took us such a bloody fight to get that done... It'll become something, it'll be like, people go 'did we even have an argument about that?'" she claimed.

Such comments underscore a blatant arrogance within the current administration, which seems determined to impose politically motivated social experiments regardless of the clear rejection from voters. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese attempted to distance himself from Wong’s remarks, insisting she merely reflected on historical debates rather than declaring inevitability. Yet this half-hearted clarification does little to mitigate the government’s ongoing push for constitutional change that was decisively rejected in the recent referendum.

The Labor Party continues to cling to the failed Voice proposal as a supposed legacy, ignoring widespread public resistance and instead doubling down on divisive identity politics. Their efforts will only deepen societal rifts, betraying the very goal of reconciliation they claim to champion. This approach starkly contrasts with the pragmatic and unifying policies championed by a growing movement advocating for common-sense reforms that prioritize national cohesion over symbolism and political point-scoring.

Compounding Labor’s predicament, at a Senate Estimates hearing, Senator Wong was evasive about any concrete progress on Voice, Treaty, or Truth initiatives, delegating answers to lower officials. This obfuscation exposes the government’s lack of transparency and accountability on critical issues, undermining trust further.

Opposition Leader Peter Dutton has rightly condemned Labor’s tactics, highlighting how their constant cultural grandstanding, including overly ceremonial Welcome to Country rituals, exacerbates division rather than healing it. Dutton’s critique resonates with many Australians frustrated by a government out of touch with grassroots concerns.

As the election looms, voters face a clear choice: continue down a path of identity politics that fractures the nation, or support a vision that respects democratic outcomes and promotes genuine unity, free from elitist mandates. The government’s failure to accept the referendum result and shift towards practical reconciliation reveals their disconnect and risks alienating Australians longing for real progress. This pivotal moment demands a political alternative committed to restoring common sense and national pride rather than endlessly pursuing failed ideological agendas.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-10-15/indigenous-voice-referendum-result-anthony-albanese-peter-dutton/102977398> - This article reports on Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's call for unity after the Indigenous Voice to Parliament referendum was resoundingly voted down, highlighting the government's ongoing efforts to address Indigenous issues despite the setback.
* <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/anthony-albanese-responds-to-radical-voice-opponents-as-australians-urged-to-inform-themselves/v4t4noqeo> - This piece discusses Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's response to opponents of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament, labeling them as 'radicals' and urging Australians to inform themselves about the proposal.
* <https://www.thenewdaily.com.au/news/2023/01/10/voice-failure-damage-australia-anthony-albanese> - This article covers Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's statement that a failure of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament would damage Australia's international image, emphasizing the proposal as a 'very gracious request from Indigenous people.'
* <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/oct/07/anthony-albanese-casts-yes-vote-in-once-in-a-generation-voice-to-parliament-referendum> - This report details Prime Minister Anthony Albanese casting his 'yes' vote in the Indigenous Voice to Parliament referendum, expressing optimism about the proposal's potential impact on Indigenous Australians.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/jan/27/anthony-albanese-calls-left-wing-opponents-of-voice-to-parliament-radicals> - This article highlights Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's labeling of left-wing opponents of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament as 'radicals,' urging support for the 'mainstream proposition' to advance reconciliation.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/sep/27/anthony-albanese-says-voice-referendum-worthwhile-even-if-rejected-by-voters> - This piece discusses Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's assertion that the Indigenous Voice to Parliament referendum process has been worthwhile, even if rejected by voters, for bringing Indigenous disadvantage to the forefront of national conversation.
* <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14661917/Anthony-Albanese-Voice-damage-control.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data