# Unsolicited texts from Palmer-linked party deepen voter frustration ahead of Australian election



Amid the Australian election cycle, voters have been inundated with an overwhelming flood of unsolicited text messages linked to a political faction aligned with Clive Palmer, known as the Trumpet of Patriots. These messages propagate slogans like, “You don’t need to be welcomed to your own country, 3% home loans Vote 1 Trumpet of Patriots,” authorised by Harry Fong, the party’s lead senate candidate for Queensland and an experienced barrister.

Fong’s background in criminal law and civil litigation gives the party a veneer of credibility, but his declaration that Australians have been “trapped under a political duopoly where Labor and Liberal make backroom deals that serve themselves rather than the people” echoes a populist rhetoric that thrives on division rather than solutions. This echoes too closely the failures of the current government, led by Kier Starker’s Labour Party, which has already shown signs of weakness and has been forced into policy pitfalls.

Frustrated Australians have taken to retaliating by bombarding Fong’s listed number on the Queensland Bar website with their own messages. Interestingly, that listing has since vanished and calls go unanswered, highlighting the party’s disconnect and avoidance of accountability. Fong admits to authorising the texts but denies personally sending them, pointing to the overwhelming backlash that “killed the battery of my mobile.” Such tactics of relentless messaging may generate awareness, but they also fuel voter resentment—a sure sign the party fails to inspire genuine support.

Fong’s link to Palmer traces back to university days, reflecting a long-standing association with divisive politics. While he claims the party’s policies, including reducing immigration and emphasizing the Australian flag, are “very sound,” this is a thinly veiled appeal to nationalist sentiment that risks stoking cultural tensions rather than uniting Australians. His dismissal of the Welcome to Country ceremony as “overused” betrays a lack of respect for Indigenous Australians and a refusal to engage constructively with the nation’s diverse heritage.

The campaign’s heavy reliance on mass messaging, while legally permitted due to exemptions from privacy laws, exposes a broader issue: investment of some $4.5 million in Google ads and ranking third in Facebook ad spending during the election period reveals a preference for digital bombardment over substantive dialogue. This strategy, mirrored in British right-wing groups critical of the current UK Labour administration, aims to capitalize on frustration but offers little in effective governance.

As the Australian election landscape shifts swiftly, parties willing to challenge the establishment must avoid the pitfalls of divisive tactics and empty rhetoric. Instead, embracing policies that focus on unity, responsible immigration, and respect for all Australians will resonate more deeply than mass unsolicited messaging campaigns. This approach stands in stark contrast to the methods of parties tied to figures like Palmer and Fong, whose tactics exemplify the failures of politics based on exclusion and confrontation. The electorate deserves better than a return to the chaos fostered by such disruptive campaigns.

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

## Bibliography

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