

# **Political Guts**

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Tuesday, 21 October 2008

Mr Robert McClelland  
Attorney General  
CC Prime Minister Kevin Rudd  
PO Box 6022  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr McClelland,

Daily, especially here on the Gold Coast, with our proximity to the freeway, and with Schoolies Week coming round again, we hear of and see the results of drivers with less experience than bravado coming off second best with their motor vehicles and lives are lost or destroyed, far too often. Having graduated from this group of young people a very long time and many thousands of miles ago, I have some common-sense suggestions on how the trauma of road deaths and the carnage of "road accidents" can be greatly reduced. However, it will require you to take a stand, and make decisions that the majority of the population are calling for, but the vocal minority will rail against. Are you prepared for that?

My solutions address the inexperience factor, the age factor and the testosterone factor, and the combination of all three which together provide the cocktail which is perhaps the most dangerous of all. These solutions are more detailed on my website, the address of which is <http://www.politicalguts.com/id21.html> . The bullet points are below:

1. Standardise road rules throughout Australia, bringing them under the ONE regulatory body. We are all Australian; we are all driving on roads that cross borders, in cars that comply with the ADRs to become registered for our use. National rules and penalties, for all.
2. Genuine driver education starting at the beginning of high school, including defensive driver training under all conditions and at all times, including drug and alcohol education and visits to hospital casualty wards. Every school, throughout Australia.
3. A serious national driver examination and licensing system, requiring more than rules and street driving, and including aspects of defensive driver training. This would include regular driver retesting to ensure competency, perhaps every five years, for everyone.
4. Limits on the performance capability of motor vehicles the new driver/rider is licensed to operate, as well as own.
5. Get serious about hooning. 3<sup>rd</sup> strike crushing of vehicle and permanent licence loss.

More detail is found on my website, and I urge you to take this seriously. I will be canvassing these ideas elsewhere throughout the country over the near future, as I have done with my recent previous letters to you and the Government on Gangs, Crime and Sentencing. I do hope you can act on my concepts and suggestions. I look forward to your responses.

Sincerely

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