KENNETT SHOWS LEADERSHIP WHERE LITTLE EXISTS

Andrew Bolt, Herald Sun, March 28, 2018 6:00am

<u>Two birds with one stone</u> - an important protest, at the cost of a dangerous project:

JEFF Kennett has resigned as chair of a key new panel which will oversee Victoria's first medically supervised drug-injecting centre, in protest at Labor's rorts-for-votes fiasco.

In a major blow to Premier Daniel Andrews and his bid for bipartisan oversight of the controversial centre, Mr Kennett says that despite still supporting it, he cannot remain involved.

The former Liberal premier says the Ombudsman's report into Labor's \$388,000 "red shirts" scam shows the Andrews Government has "lost any moral authority".

Kennett shows the kind of moral leadership too often lacking:

In the past two weeks we have seen the spirit of competition severely compromised and challenged, in two different fronts: the conduct of politics in Victoria and the conduct of our cricket team in South Africa.

In Victoria Labor <u>cheated to maximise its chances of victory at the election in 2014.</u>

Not only did it cheat using our money, it then spent our money to stop any investigation and more recently to stop the release of the findings of the independent Ombudsman, Deborah Glass.

Just before the report was released, the ALP repaid the amount it was found to have taken from the public, roughly \$388,000. But of course it has not repaid the huge amount it spent trying to stop the release of the report.

And the Premier and his colleagues have refused to accept any personal responsibility.

So, what happens if a person robs a convenience store, a bank, or steals from a client, is caught and repays the money? Will our government say that is fine and no further penalty need be imposed?...

So disappointed am I at the failure of the Andrews government to apply its standards consistently, to accept responsibility for the fraud it has collectively committed, I have decided to resign as <u>chairman of the review panel</u> overseeing the introduction of Victoria's first medically supervised injecting facility.