

Turnbull Failing to Learn From Experience

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Two of last Saturday's by-elections have produced such swings against the Turnbull government that they suggest the need for a major change in policies or the replacement of its leader, who was personally heavily involved in the campaign in the Longman electorate in particular.

Malcolm Turnbull gave himself ample opportunity to explain his policies by prescribing an extraordinary eight week campaign, the same as for the last general election in 2016. As he only just scraped home then, that in itself suggests an inability to learn from past experience.

More important may be his failures to justify the claimed outcomes of his policies. The trouble is that there is so little to show for such policies, which forced Turnbull to concentrate on attacking the personality of the Opposition leader. It is clear that his policies on such important issues as the budget, immigration, environment, education, and defence have barely held together and need major improvements.

As such, the Coalition now has a spate of possible replacement ministers who have experienced what not to do. Such replacements include former PM Abbott who has indicated [quietly but admirably] where he would go. His previous rebuttal of the need to effect an increased role of government in managing the environment has been proved right by Turnbull's failure to convince that we need a National Energy Guarantee. The attempt to convince the electorate has produced a modelled prescription by supposed experts. No Liberal party should go down that path.

Yours faithfully

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