



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

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STATEMENT TO PRESS CONFERENCE, KIRRIBILLI HOUSE, SYDNEY

This election contest has been hard fought. Opposing policies and proposals have been argued over in detail across Australia. People have a clear choice in this election between the consistent, coherent and responsible policies of the Liberal National Party Government and Labor's policies.

We have laid the framework for a real advance into the future in which Australia can be an example to the world. In which we can establish an economy we can be proud of, social justice for all Australians, care and concern for the disadvantaged, encouragement for initiative and reward for achievement.

It has sometimes been a hard road getting to that point, because of the situation we faced when we came to Government. But our policies are working.

A vote for the Government will take Australia forward confidently into the future, into a new period of prosperity and development.

During election periods, there is a tendency to divide this great nation, and in politics too often people seek to divide where they ought not. They bring issues, that should not be matters of Party political debate, into the political arena.

All Australians, in whatever office they may hold and wherever they may be, have a duty to reach out beyond the bounds of politics, to seek to understand and to define those issues that unite Australia as one people with a common purpose and common objectives, so that we may achieve a greater, a better, a more just society.

The most important thing now for Australians is to have this country well governed. We need to emphasise those things that unite us, not those that divide us.

We have an excellent chance now to push through into the 1980's and beyond with a new found confidence; a new found spirit, a new sense of security and a new sense of national purpose. By going beyond political conflicts to the real basis of shared values and shared interests we can work together in a single minded and united effort to make Australia the great country we know it can be.

The Government asks Australians for their support on December 10 for their help in doing the job of building a better Australia.