

Cindy-Joy Balie - Re: The Funding Of Political Parties

From: Lwando Scott <SCTLWA001@myuct.ac.za>
To: "cbalie@parliament.gov.za" <cbalie@parliament.gov.za>
Date: 2017-07-20 02:03 PM
Subject: Re: The Funding Of Political Parties

I write to you in my capacity as a South African citizen. A citizen that loves this country. A citizen that is concerned about transparency in government.

The issue of how political parties are funded is important because we do not want a country that is run by people who are rich, who are able to buy political parties, without the public knowing. This is what will happen if it is not already happening with political parties since we do not know where political parties are getting their money.

Transparency is an important element of democracy. In fact, I do not think a democracy can function without proper transparency in the government.

I call on Parliament through the creation of law to ensure that political parties are transparent about where they get their funding. This is not only to ensure that current political parties are open about funding but to ensure future political parties also abide with values of transparency.

One of the hallmarks of the apartheid regime, indeed what helped the regime succeed for the years that it did, was the lack of transparency in what the state was doing. We can not let that happen. Our government needs to be transparent at all levels of government except for secret services that have to do with national security. This also must not be abused.

The future of our democracy rests on the good decisions we make today about crucial matters, like where our politicians are getting their money.

You must remember this will also help to prevent foreign powers from infiltrating from how the government of South Africa functions. Without transparency, the citizens are not well informed about what is going on in their government. And let us be clear, it is the people's government. Citizens are the number one priority of government.

I hope that my recommendation is heard, and it is taken seriously.

Thank you.
Lwando Scott

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