

The Editor, *The Age*

Dear Editor,

### **More parties key**

The migration phenomenon of the past 50 years has transformed Australia into a uniquely cultural and socially diverse society. But as "The Coalition is in tatters. The race is on to replace it in the centre", (31/1) highlights, our adversarial two-party preferred parliamentary system (TPP) increasingly proves not to reflect our diversity in the way we are governed.

Yet, the looming split in the Liberal-National coalition might actually drive us into positive directions. Having more, not fewer parliamentary parties might be more transparent and reflective of the direction Australian democracy is moving. The proportional representation [quota-based electoral system](#) (PR) could prove a way forward as a reform to more representative democratic governance.

However, the foreseeable reality tells us that the TPP system will continue to drive the two major parties from the centre, endeavouring to be all things to all people. The consequence of this is the squashing of Australian society's diversity with overdue social and economic reforms to stay on the back-burner.

**Henk van Leeuwen,  
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