

VOTE SMART 2020

FACTORS IN THE ELECTION EQUATION

Simple Step-by-Step, Non-Partisan Guide

Points to Ponder, Pray & Pursue

by Rasik Ranchord

1. ACTION PLAN

5TH EDITION

Five Action Points (P.I.E.V.E)

(a) **Pray** (b) **be Informed** (c) **Enrol** (d) **Vote** (e) **Encourage Others**

2. TWO VOTES

You have two votes.

- (a) **Party Vote** helps decide how many seats **each party** gets in Parliament. **This is the critical vote.**
- (b) **Electorate Vote** helps decide who becomes **your local MP** (Electorate MP).

3. PARTY VOTE

How to decide who to give your Party Vote to.

Consider 6 factors:

F.1 Major Parties

Which **Major Party** do you want to see **lead** the Government?

LABOUR	or	NATIONAL
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Consider the Major Parties:

- (a) Their core values, voting record, policies.
- (b) Who do you want to see be the next **Prime Minister**?
Jacinda Ardern (Labour) or **Todd Muller** (National)
- (c) Consider the likely **cabinet composition**.

F.2 Minor Parties

Which **Minor Party** do you want to vote for as a **support** to the Major Party? Under the MMP electoral system it is rare for a major party to be able to govern alone; in most cases it will need support parties to form a governing coalition.

Alignment of Support Parties

BASED ON 2017 ELECTION AFTERMATH

LABOUR	May go either way ←————→	NATIONAL
NZ FIRST	INDEPENDENT	ACT
GREEN PARTY		
WATCH OUT FOR	ANNOUNCEMENTS RE	NEW ALIGNMENTS

F.3 New Parties

Which New Party (not presently represented in Parliament) eg The New Conservative Party or others you want to support. Consider their alignment.

F.4 Threshold

Which Minor Parties & New Parties **do you think** are likely to cross the Threshold (i.e. **5% Party Votes** (approx. 130,000), about the population of Tauranga **or** win one electorate seat.

MINOR PARTIES REPRESENTED IN 2017 PARLIAMENT			
1	NZ FIRST	9 seats	Coat-Tailing When a party crosses the Threshold by winning one electorate seat, additional MPs are brought in, in proportion to the share of Party Votes .
2	GREEN PARTY	8 seats	
3	ACT	1 seat	
4	INDEPENDENT	1 seat	
MINOR PARTIES NOT REPRESENTED IN 2017 PARLIAMENT			
1	New Conservative Party		
2	Maori Party		
3	Other Parties		
2017: NATIONAL 55+ LABOUR 46+ OTHER PARTIES 19 = 120			

Check Major Polls to see how Parties are trending

F.5 Excluded Votes

If you are voting for a Minor Party or New Party, you need to consider the following:

- ♦ Can they cross the threshold in 2020? If they do not, then their share of party votes will be '**excluded**'. The net effect is the party votes of qualifying parties are **scaled up** proportionately.

F.6 Pray

That God will guide you regarding which Party to give your Party Vote to.

4. ELECTORATE VOTE

Consider 3 factors:

2 Referendums

- (1) Euthanasia
- (2) Cannabis

F.1 Sitting Electorate MP

- (a) Are you satisfied with his/her **performance**?
- (b) Is he/she in a **safe seat or a marginal seat**?
- (c) Is he/she **retiring**?

F.2 New Candidates

- (a) Do you want to vote for a New Candidate, whose values are closer to yours?
- (b) Tactical Voting: Do you want to give your **electorate vote** (E.V.) to a candidate of **the same party** as your **party vote** (P.V.), or do you want to '**split vote**'? (P.V. to one and E.V. to another.)
- (c) Understand **Coat-Tailing*** (see opposite page).
- (d) Consider the new candidate's **core values** and **competence**.

F.3 Pray God will guide you.

5. TWO TYPES OF MPs / TWO WAYS TO ENTER PARLIAMENT

- (a) **Electorate MPs** are chosen by the Electorates (65 General, 7 Maori).
- (b) **List MPs** are chosen and ranked by the **Parties** (48 List MPs). It is possible for a candidate in an electorate to also be on the Party List. The higher the ranking, the greater the likelihood of getting into or returning to Parliament. **Total 120 MPs (usually)**.
- (c) **Electorate seats won + TOP UP from Party List = share of seats in Parliament**. When a party wins **more electorate seats than its share of party votes**, the extra seats, above 120, are called '**Overhang**'.

6. GOVERNMENT FORMATION

Under MMP **Government Formation** takes place **after Election Day**.

Which Major Party can form a governing coalition? 61 seats are usually needed—**Labour+ Support Parties OR National + Support Parties**.

7. RESOURCES

- 1 www.elections.org.nz
- 2 Party websites
- 3 Candidate Meetings
- 4 Major Newspapers
- 5 Television Channels: TV1 & TV3
- 6 www.valueyourvote.org.nz
(Family First NZ)
- 7 Electoral Commission
- 8 Check Party Lists (See Party Website)
- 9 Check Polls (Newspapers)
- 10 Rasik Ranchord's pamphlets on 2020
Election prayeratparliament.org.nz

8. VOTING PROCESS

Enrolment is **COMPULSORY**:
Voting is **VOLUNTARY**

- 1 Must enrol to vote
(www.elections.org.nz/enrolme)
 - 2 Must be 18 years or over. If turning 18
before 19 September 2017, enrol to vote.
 - 3 Citizen or Permanent Resident, in NZ
continuously for at least 1 year.
 - 4 Advance Voting in NZ from 5 September
2020. Enrol and vote up to 19 Sept 2020
 - 5 Please encourage others to enrol and vote.
- In 2017, **about 670,000 enrolled voters did not vote plus 270,000 did not even enrol !**
Total 940,000 did not participate !

9. IMPACT

Consider the **moral, economic and social justice** impact of various
Parties' philosophies, values and policies.

10. SCRIPTURES

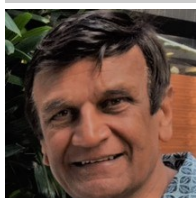
Study Matthew 5:13-16; Matthew 22:21; Romans 13:1-7;
1 Timothy 2:1-6; 1 Peter 2:13-17

11. ELECTION DAY—SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2020

- **VOTING** is a **REAL PRIVILEGE** **YOUR VOTE IS EQUAL IN VALUE**
- **VOTING** is a **RIGHT**, and **TO PRIME MINISTER'S VOTE!**
- **VOTING** is a **RESPONSIBILITY**
- **SO** do **VOTE** on **ELECTION DAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2020!**

Our Election Policy

**We are non-partisan; we want to promote growing Christian
influence ('salt & light') in the public square; We endeavour to
be educative, not directive. We inform - You decide!**



RASIK RANCHORD

**Has been a minister for over 50 years. He has a
passion to educate Christians regarding their civic
responsibilities. He is the Convener for Prayer@
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Please circulate this pamphlet to others.