

Media Release



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Labor and Liberal arguing the same side in the first Intelligence Squared debate of the year: *Both Major Parties are Failing the Australian People*

Former leader of the Liberal Party John Hewson joins former Labor Premier Carmen Lawrence to argue the parties they once led are failing Australia. As Newspann results confirm voter ambivalence and the NSW election looms, IQ2 debates the state of our two party system.

On **14 March** at the Melbourne Town Hall, party heavyweights past and present including Senators **Penny Wong** and **Helen Kroger** join barrister and ex-political advisor **Greg Barns** and political columnist **Shaun Carney**.

Intelligence Squared Debate – Both Major Parties are Failing the Australian People **Monday 14 March 2011, 6:30PM – 8:30PM**

Tickets \$20/\$12 concession, bookings through wheelercentre.com

Melbourne Town Hall, corner Swanston and Collins streets, Melbourne.

As the old truism would have it, 'Whoever you vote for the Government always gets in'. By the end of last year, the Australian electorate's sense of fatigue and disillusionment was palpable. Differences between Labor and Liberal felt incremental, and the big stories seemed to centre on alternatives, from the Greens to the Independents. Have the old forces in Australian politics lost their way?

For: **John Hewson, Greg Barns and Carmen Lawrence**

Against: **Penny Wong, Helen Kroger, Shaun Carney**

About Intelligence Squared

Established in 2002 IQ2 has spread from London to New York to Sydney and now to Melbourne. Bringing the traditional form of Cambridge and Oxford Unions-style debating – with two sides proposing and opposing a sharply formed motion – to Melbourne Town Hall. *Intelligence Squared* Melbourne is a project of St. James Ethics Centre and the Wheeler Centre.

Tickets and information at wheelercentre.com

For more information on the speakers and media enquiries contact Anna Lensky 0425 766 780 or 03 9094 7806 or anna.lensky@wheelercentre.com

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The Wheeler Centre

A Victorian Government initiative and the centrepiece of Melbourne's designation as a UNESCO City of Literature.