

Comment by Michael C H Jones

And so it was with the Australian Labor Party (ALP).

Assistant Treasurer Bill Shorten is 'all the way' with Julia until he can run for PM. Treasurer Wayne Swan says she's a Thatcher-style 'lady of steel' or similar words, and AWU trade union boss Paul Howes virtually declares all opposed to her in the State Party branches 'traitors'. What a bunch of ....

I remember when I resigned, to get married, as National Field Secretary for the Australian Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) in November 1969 I was reported in the Australian newspaper as commenting that "I did not want to bust a gut for these bastards". I have never regretted the statement nor changed my mind. One of my regrets is that I recruited some people including Ian Macdonald out of La Trobe University in Victoria - his subsequent history in student politics, on the staff of NSW Ministers, and as himself a NSW Minister is well known in political circles with many allegations:

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/sydney-nsw/ex-minister-ian-macdonald-in-ron-medich-bribe-inquiry/story-e6freuzi-1226196093818>

My point is that professed allegiances in the ALP have, certainly since the 1980s, been a complete shame. People rise to positions of authority voting and supporting policy positions over decades and then suddenly within months .....

'Marriage is between a man and a woman'. How long has it been since the 'Left' stopped supporting that proposition? And do past beliefs and actions mean nothing?

Personally I have great respect for Bob Brown, Penny Wong and Michael Kirby.

'Uranium can not be sold to India or other countries that have not signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty' has been the position of the 'Left' for 30 years or more. One would expect at least some indication during a lengthy parliamentary career of second thoughts, perhaps soon after "the 2008 US-India Civil Nuclear Agreement and an exemption granted by the Nuclear Suppliers Group for uranium sales to India had lifted the de facto international ban on India" ..... Where are the speeches and/or minutes of meetings?

Personally I am reassured by the PM's statement that "no other nuclear nations that refused to sign the treaty, such as Israel or Pakistan, would be sold uranium". And it was not a 'carbon tax' passed by the Federal parliament last week !

Prancing on the international stage is one thing, character and integrity are others. The only thing she has ever had going for her is Tony Abbott.