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My position on your leadership challenge.

Kevin Rudd MP
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This link dated 7th February on the ACCCI Website - www.accci.com.au - via My Comment states my position on the current ALP leadership.

Lenore Taylor, "Follow the Leader – It's Not a Game", The Sydney Morning Herald, 7 February 2012. Available at:

<http://www.smh.com.au/opinion/follow-the-leader--its-not-a-game-20120206-1r1wn.html>. See also commentary by Michael C H

Jones at: <http://accci.com.au/JonesCommentonLeadershipBattle.pdf>.

You are most welcome to use it in any way re internal membership or external media etc.

I am a Life Member of the NSW ALP with about 47 years membership.

When I joined 60% of the workforce were members of a Trade Union, this is now down to less than 20% according to media sources? But if you look at the affiliated trade unions to the ALP I would suggest they represent less than 10% of the workforce - perhaps I am wrong? But not all their members vote Labor - again perhaps in excess of 25/30% vote Liberal?

Hence the question: can the ALP continue to have trade unions, and their faction leaders, with 50% of delegates to conferences representing less than 20% and perhaps as low as 5/10% of workers/Labor voters? The situation, rightly or wrongly is untenable. Those surrounding Gillard are nice people - mostly - but living in a dream world. They simply can not recognise the 'wrong' they did to the Australian political fabric when they sacked you.

With respect to the absolutely disgraceful attempted character assassination of yourself by numerous Gillard Ministers there is no recovery. If you win - now or in the future - you simply can not have them in your Cabinet.

You have said you need grey beards around you - as a grey beard with a good activist record since 1962 and a great deal of international experience I volunteer - Deputy Chief of Staff would be a perfect slot re someone absolutely fearless and prepared to tell you between the eyes when you are acting in a silly and/or

immature way - something that apparently most of the current Federal Labor Cabinet were unable to do.

Best of luck - for you, the ALP and Australia - and for me.

Michael C H Jones
President - ACCCI