



Objection 280

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1 page

Objections to the proposed redistribution of federal electoral divisions

I wish to raise an objection to the continued use of the name 'John Batman' as an electoral division. My objection is based on the fact that this individual has been responsible for considerable human rights abuses, both in Tasmania and in Victoria and as such should be ineligible to meet the criteria of 'outstanding service' to the community. History reveals that John Batman was nothing less than a bounty hunter, capturing and murdering aborigines in Tasmania. In Victoria his actions in relation to the so-called 'Batman Treaty' established him as a land squatter, some might call thief, which then allowed him to indulge in land speculation, based on the false premise of 'terra nullius'. These are not the actions of someone to be celebrated by naming a federal electorate after him.

Marcia Lewis