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Scott Morrison

Scott John Morrison (/ˈmɒrɪsən/;^[4] born 13 May 1968) is an Australian politician serving as the 30th and current prime minister of Australia. He assumed office in August 2018 upon his election as leader of the Liberal Party of Australia. He is the longest-serving prime minister since John Howard.

Morrison was born in Sydney and studied economic geography at the University of New South Wales. He worked as director of the New Zealand Office of Tourism and Sport from 1998 to 2000 and was managing director of Tourism Australia from 2004 to 2006. Morrison also served as state director of the New South Wales Liberal Party from 2000 to 2004. He was first elected to the Australian House of Representatives at the 2007 election as a member of parliament (MP) for the division of Cook in New South Wales, and was quickly appointed to the shadow cabinet.

After the Liberal-National coalition's victory at the 2013 election, Morrison was appointed Minister for Immigration and Border Protection ~~in the Abbott~~ ~~Government~~, where he was responsible for implementing Operation Sovereign Borders. In a reshuffle the following year, he became Minister for Social Services. He was later promoted to the role of Treasurer in September 2015, after Malcolm Turnbull replaced Abbott as prime minister. In August 2018, Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton unsuccessfully challenged Turnbull for the leadership of the Liberal Party. Leadership tension continued, and the party voted to hold a second leadership ballot days later, with Turnbull choosing not to stand. In that ballot, Morrison was seen as a compromise candidate and defeated both Dutton and Foreign Minister Julie Bishop to become party leader and thus prime minister.

Morrison went on to lead the Coalition to an upset victory in the 2019 election.^[5] He was criticized for taking a ~~holiday during the 2019–20 bushfires~~ and for his government's response to the disaster,^[6] and for the response to the ~~2021 Parliament rape allegations~~.^[7] During the COVID-19 pandemic, Morrison established the National Cabinet, and Australia received praise during 2020 for being one of the few Western countries to successfully suppress the virus.^[8] In foreign policy, Morrison oversaw the signing of the AUKUS security pact, increased tensions between Australia and China, resisted

The Honourable
Scott Morrison
MP



Morrison in 2019

30th Prime Minister of Australia

Incumbent

Assumed office

24 August 2018

Monarch Elizabeth II

Governor Sir Peter Cosgrove

General David Hurley

Deputy Michael McCormack

Barnaby Joyce

Preceded by Malcolm Turnbull

14th Leader of the Liberal Party

Incumbent

Assumed office

24 August 2018

Deputy Josh Frydenberg

Preceded by Malcolm Turnbull

Minister for the Public Service

In office

29 May 2019 – 8 October 2021

Prime Minister *Himself*

Preceded by Mathias Cormann

international pressure to implement policies to address climate change and became part of the international effort against Russia in the wake of the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Succeeded by Ben Morton

Treasurer of Australia

In office

21 September 2015 – 24 August 2018

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull

Preceded by Joe Hockey

Succeeded by Josh Frydenberg

Minister for Social Services

In office

23 December 2014 – 21 September 2015

Prime Minister Tony Abbott

Malcolm Turnbull

Preceded by Kevin Andrews

Succeeded by Christian Porter

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection

In office

18 September 2013 – 23 December 2014

Prime Minister Tony Abbott

Preceded by Tony Burke

Succeeded by Peter Dutton

Member of the Australian Parliament for Cook

Incumbent

Assumed office

24 November 2007

Preceded by Bruce Baird

Majority 19.02% (35,765)

Personal details

Born Scott John Morrison

13 May 1968

Sydney, New South

Wales, Australia

Political party Liberal

Other political affiliations Coalition

Spouse(s) Jenny Warren (m., 1990)

Children 2

Parent(s) John Douglas Morrison
(father)

Residence(s) Kirribilli House
(primary)^[1]

The Lodge (Canberra)

Education University of New South

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integrate the agency into the Australian Public Service.^[26] He had been awarded a pay rise by the Remuneration Tribunal three weeks before his sacking. A 2019 investigation by *The Saturday Paper* suggested Morrison was sacked due to concerns that Tourism Australia was not following government procurement guidelines for three contracts relating to the "So where the bloody hell are you?" campaign, with a total value of \$184 million. A 2008 report from the Auditor-General found that "information had been kept from the board, procurement guidelines breached and private companies engaged before paperwork was signed and without appropriate value-for-money assessments". It was suggested that M&C Saatchi, which had previously worked with Morrison on the "100% Pure" campaign in New Zealand, received favourable treatment in the tendering process.^[25]

This episode and, more generally, his career in marketing led to his satirical sobriquet, "Scotty from Marketing,"^[27] originating with the satirical news website *The Betoota Advocate* in August 2018. It was taken up on Twitter in early 2019, and spiked at the height of the bushfire crisis on 29 December 2019.^[28] In January 2020, Morrison referred to the name as a "snarky comment" used by the Labor Party to discredit him.^{[29][27]}

Political career

Opposition (2007–2013)

Morrison sought Liberal preselection for the division of Cook, an electorate in the southern suburbs of Sydney which includes Cronulla, Caringbah, and Miranda, for the 2007 election, following the retirement of Bruce Baird, who had served as the member since 1998.^{[30][31]} He lost the ballot to Michael Towke, a telecommunications engineer and the candidate of the Liberals' right faction, by 82 votes to 8.^[32] Paul Fletcher who came closest to Towke received 70 votes. Fletcher went on to win Liberal preselection for nearby Bradfield.^[33]

However, allegations surfaced that Towke had engaged in branch stacking and had embellished his resume.^[34] The state executive of the Liberal Party disendorsed Towke and held a new pre-selection ballot, which Morrison won. The allegations subsequently proved to be false, and *The Daily Telegraph* was forced to pay an undisclosed amount to settle a defamation suit filed by Towke.^[32] At the general election, Morrison suffered a two-party swing of over six percent against Labor candidate Mark Buttigieg, but was able to retain the seat on the strength of winning 52 percent of the primary vote.^[35]



Morrison in 2009

* LOCAL GOVERNMENT *

*In September 2008, Morrison was appointed to Malcolm Turnbull's coalition front bench as shadow minister for housing, and ~~local~~ government.^[36] In December 2009, he became shadow minister for immigration and citizenship, coming into the shadow cabinet for the first time during Tony Abbott's first cabinet reshuffle shortly after winning the leadership.^[37]

In December 2010, forty-eight asylum seekers died in the Christmas Island boat disaster.^[38] In February 2011, Morrison publicly questioned the decision of the Gillard Labor government to pay for the relatives of the victims to travel to funerals in Sydney, arguing that the same privilege was not extended to Australian citizens. After fellow

Liberal and shadow treasurer Joe Hockey disagreed with Morrison's statements, Morrison said that the timing of his comments was insensitive, but did not back away from the comments themselves.^{[39][40]} Other Liberal Party members including former prime minister Malcolm Fraser and former opposition leader John Hewson also criticized Morrison for his comments.^[41] In the

Morrison was also criticised for not accepting more Afghan refugees, who were fleeing the country after the Taliban seized control of the country in August 2021.^[137] He agreed to give humanitarian visas to 3,000 Afghan refugees, fewer than other countries such as the United States and the United Kingdom.^[138] Morrison later determined that more than 3,000 refugees may be accepted, as the original number was a "floor not a ceiling".^[139] He would later state that he would only resettle refugees who came in through "official channels", and those who came to Australia via boat would not receive permanent residency.^{[140][141]}

Foreign affairs

2019 Hong Kong protests

In August 2019, Morrison called on the Chief Executive of Hong Kong to listen to protester demands, denying that the 2019–20 Hong Kong protests were showing signs of terrorism.^[142]

2019 Turkish offensive

In October 2019, Morrison criticised the 2019 Turkish offensive into north-eastern Syria. Morrison stated that he was concerned for the safety of the Kurds living in the region and also feared that the offensive could result in a resurgence of ISIS.^[143]

Sino–Australian relations

On 30 November 2020, a Chinese diplomat, Zhao Lijian, posted a digitally manipulated image of an Australian soldier who appears to hold a bloodied knife against the throat of an Afghan child, on his Twitter page.^{[144][145]} The image is believed to be a reference to the Brereton Report, which had been released earlier by the Australian government that month, and which details war crimes committed by the Australian Defence Force during the War in Afghanistan between 2005 and 2016.^[146] Later that day, Morrison called a press conference, calling the image "offensive" and "truly repugnant",^[147] and demanding a formal apology from the Chinese government. China rejected the demands for an apology on the following day,^[148] with the artist of the image creating another artwork *To Morrison* in response to Morrison's demand.^[149] The incident had the effect of unifying Australian politicians in condemning China across party lines while also drawing attention to the Brereton Report.^[150] The incident was further seen as a sign of deteriorating relations between Australia and China.^[151]

Relations with New Zealand

As Prime Minister, Morrison has defended Australia's policy of deporting non-citizens including New Zealanders who had violated its character test or committed crimes. This policy was criticised by his New Zealand counterpart Jacinda Ardern, who described it as "corrosive" to Australia–New Zealand relations in February 2020.^{[152][153]}

In mid-February 2021, Morrison defended the Australian policy of revoking Australian citizenship for dual nationals engaged in terrorism. The previous year, the Australian Government had revoked the citizenship of dual Australian–New Zealand citizen Suhayra Aden, who had become an ISIS bride. New Zealand Prime Minister Ardern had criticised the decision, accusing Australia of



At the 2019 Lowy Lecture, Scott Morrison argued that the "distinctiveness of independent nations is preserved within a framework of mutual respect".

Early life and education

*CONNECTED TO POLICE SOURCES.

Morrison was born in the suburb of Waverley in Sydney,^{[9][10]} the younger of two sons born to Marion (née Smith) and John Douglas Morrison (1934–2020).^[11]

His father was a policeman who served on the Waverley Municipal Council, including a single term as mayor.^[12]

Morrison's maternal grandfather was born in New Zealand.^[13] His paternal grandmother was the niece of noted Australian poet Dame Mary Gilmore. In 2012, on

the 50th anniversary of her death, he delivered a tribute to her in federal parliament.^[14] Morrison is *descended from William Roberts, a convict* who was convicted of stealing yarn and transported to Australia on the First Fleet in 1788.^[15]

Morrison grew up in the suburb of Bronte. He had a brief career as a child actor, appearing in several television commercials and small roles in local shows.^[16] Some reports have suggested that he was the iconic 1970s Vicks "Love Rub" kid, but footage to confirm or refute this has not been found; he has stated he was in a different Vicks commercial.^[17]

Morrison attended Sydney Boys High School before going on to complete a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) honours degree in applied economic geography at the *University* of New South Wales.^{[2][18][19]} His honours thesis, a demographical analysis of Christian Brethren assemblies in Sydney, was deposited in the University of Manchester Library's Christian Brethren Collection.^{[20][21]} Morrison contemplated studying theology at Regent College in Vancouver, Canada, but he instead chose to enter the workforce after completing his undergraduate education, in part due to the disapproval of his father.^[22]

Early career

After graduating from university, Morrison worked as national policy and research manager for the Property Council of Australia from 1989 to 1995.^[2] He then moved into tourism, serving as deputy chief executive of the Australian Tourism Task Force and then general manager of the Tourism Council of Australia; the latter was managed by Bruce Baird, whom he would eventually succeed in federal parliament.^[16]

In 1998, Morrison moved to New Zealand to become director of the newly created Office of Tourism and Sport. He formed a close relationship with New Zealand's tourism minister, Murray McCully, and was involved with the creation of the long-running "100% Pure New Zealand" campaign.^{[16][23]} He left this position in 2000, a year before the contract schedule.^[24]

Morrison returned to Australia in 2000, to become state director of the New South Wales division of the Liberal Party. He oversaw the party's campaigns in the 2001 federal election and in the 2003 New South Wales state election.^[12]

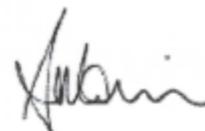
Tourism Australia

* HOWARD - PAUL GARDNER : THREATS OF GOV PROSTITUTION

In 2004, Morrison left the NSW Liberal Party post to become the inaugural managing director of Tourism Australia, which had been established by the *Howard Government*. His appointment was controversial due to its openly political nature.^[12] He signed an initial three-year contract.^[25] Morrison approved and defended the contentious "So where the bloody hell are you?" advertising campaign featuring Lara Bingle. His contract was terminated in July 2006, which at the time was attributed to conflict with tourism minister Fran Bailey over the government's plans to further

Wales (BSc Hons)^[2]

Signature



Website

scottmorrison.com.au (http://scottmorrison.com.au)

Nickname(s) - ScoMo^[3]

same month, it was revealed that Morrison had "urged the shadow cabinet to capitalise on the electorate's growing concerns" about Muslims and appeal to the public perception of their "inability to integrate" to gain votes.^[42]

2014 - 2016 EXTREME POLICE TARGETING - PORT PIRIE

In February 2013, Morrison said that the police should be notified of where asylum seekers are living in the community if any antisocial behaviour has occurred, and that there should be strict guidelines for the behaviour of those currently on bridging visas while they await the determination of their claims.^[43] The new code of conduct was released by the immigration minister for more than 20,000 irregular maritime arrivals living in the community on bridging visas.^[44]

2013 CONTESTING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY THEFT - MEDICAL BUSINESS PLAN

Abbott Government (2013–2015)

Following the Coalition's victory at the 2013 federal election, Morrison was appointed Minister for Immigration and Border Protection in the Abbott Government and included in cabinet.^[2]

Based on a series of off-the-record interviews, in June 2014 Morrison was identified by Fairfax Media as the leader of an informal grouping of "economically moderate, or wet" government MPs, also including Greg Hunt, Stuart Robert, and Josh Frydenberg. It was linked with another moderate grouping led by Christopher Pyne. It was further reported that Morrison had unsuccessfully argued in cabinet for a \$25 million bailout of SPC Ardmona.^[45]



Morrison is sworn in as Minister for Social Services by Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove, 2014

Immigration

On 18 September 2013, Morrison launched Operation Sovereign Borders, the new government's strategy aimed at stopping unauthorised boats from entering Australian waters.^[46] Cabinet documents from this time revealed in 2018 that Morrison asked for mitigation strategies to avoid granting permanent visas to 700 refugees.^[47] His office reported that there were 300 boats and 20,587 arrivals in 2013 to only 1 boat and 157 arrivals for all of 2014.^[48] The UNHCR expressed concerns that the practice may violate the Refugee Convention.^[49] In September 2014, it was reported that zero asylum seekers had died at sea since December 2013, compared with more than 1,100 deaths between 2008 and 2013.^[50] The annual refugee intake, which had been increased to 20,000 for 2012–13 by the previous government, was reduced to 13,750, the level it had been in 2011–12. Morrison stated that "Not one of those places will go to anyone who comes on a boat to Australia [...] they will go to people who have come the right way."^{[51][52]}

Morrison defended his use of the terms "illegal arrivals" and "illegal boats," saying that "I've always referred to illegal entry ... I've never claimed that it's illegal to claim asylum."^{[53][54]}

During his time as Immigration Minister, Morrison's dealings with the media and accountability to the public were widely criticised by journalists, Labor and Greens senators, and others for refusing to provide details about the matters within his portfolio. Morrison asserted that to reveal details of operations would be to play into the hands of people smugglers who used this information to plan illegal smuggling operations.^[55] On many occasions Morrison refused to answer questions about the status of asylum seekers or boats coming to and from Australia, often on the basis that he would not disclose "on water" or "operational" matters.^{[56][57][58][59][60]}

In November 2014, the Australian Human Rights Commission delivered a report to the Government which found that Morrison failed in his responsibility to act in the best interests of children in detention during his time as Minister. The overarching finding of the inquiry was that the prolonged, mandatory detention of asylum seeker children caused them significant mental and physical illness and developmental delays, in breach of Australia's international obligations.^[61] The report was criticised by Tony Abbott as being politically motivated, with regard to the timing of the report's release after the Abbott Government had taken office. The Government released the report publicly in February 2015.^[62]

In early December 2014, Morrison had the *Migration and Maritime Powers Legislation Amendment (Resolving the Asylum Legacy Caseload) Bill 2014* passed through the Australian Parliament. The bill gave Morrison more power than any previous minister in dealing with people seeking asylum in Australia, including the power to return asylum seekers to their place of origin, detain asylum seekers without charge, and refuse asylum seekers who arrive by boat access to the Refugee Review Tribunal.^{[63][64]} The bill reintroduced temporary protection visas to deal specifically with the backlog of 30,000 people who had arrived under the previous Labor Government but who had yet to be processed. The bill allowed those on bridging visas to apply for work, and increased the refugee intake to 18,750.^[65]

Social services

In a cabinet reshuffle in late December 2014, Morrison was appointed the Minister for Social Services and ceased to be Minister for Immigration and Border Protection.^[66] The appointment was criticised by Australian Greens leader Christine Milne who claimed Morrison had a lack of compassion.^[66] With a softened change in image,^[67] Morrison was commended by welfare and community groups for his accommodating approach and eagerness for the portfolio.^[68] Morrison encouraged working mothers and endorsed fixes to the childcare system by making indexation changes to the Family Tax Benefits payment.^{[69][70]} In April 2015, he announced the introduction of the "No Jab, No Pay" policy, which withholds family and childcare benefits from parents who do not vaccinate their children.^[71] His time as minister was criticised by his opposition counterpart Jenny Macklin, who said that "Scott Morrison was appointed to clean up Kevin Andrews' mess but left behind more chaos, confusion and cuts."^[72]



Morrison in 2014.

In March 2015, three hundred alumni of Sydney Boys High School signed a letter protesting Morrison's attendance at an alumni fund-raising event. The protest letter expressed the opinion that the school should not celebrate a person who has "so flagrantly disregarded human rights."^[73]

During May 2015, Morrison promoted his plan for a \$3.5 billion overhaul of the childcare subsidies system. His substantial advertising efforts led to claims that he was overshadowing the role of Treasurer Joe Hockey. Morrison insisted that he did not desire to take over the position of Treasurer despite his strong performances.^[74]

Turnbull Government (2015–2018)

Morrison was appointed as Treasurer in the Turnbull Government in September 2015, replacing Joe Hockey.^{[75][76]} In his first press conference as Treasurer, he indicated a reduction in government expenditure and stated that the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) and White Paper on tax reform would arrive on time.^[77]

In May 2016, Morrison handed down the 2016 Australian federal budget. It included the introduction of a 40 percent diverted profits tax (popularly known as the "Google tax"), which is an anti-avoidance measure designed to prevent base erosion and profit shifting. It was passed into law as the *Diverted Profits Tax Act 2017* and took effect on 1 July 2017.^[78] The new tax received criticism from some quarters, with the Corporate Tax Association stating that it would have "unpredictable outcomes" and negatively affect Australian business.^{[79][80]}

In February 2017, Morrison addressed the House of Representatives while holding a lump of coal, stating "This is coal. Don't be afraid. Don't be scared. It won't hurt you," and accusing those concerned about the environmental impact of the coal industry of having "an ideological, pathological fear of coal."^[81] He handed down the 2017 Australian federal budget in May 2017.^[82]

In December 2017, the government introduced the Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry (popularly known as the Banking Royal Commission). Morrison originally opposed the creation of a royal commission, believing that a Senate inquiry would be sufficient. He voted against a royal commission 23 times between April 2016 and June 2017, and in September 2016 described it as "nothing more than crass populism seeking to undermine confidence in the banking and financial system, which is key to jobs and growth in this country."^[83] In announcing that the royal commission would take place, Morrison described it as a "regrettable but necessary action."^[84] In response to the commission's findings, in April 2018 he announced the introduction of new criminal and civil penalties for financial misconduct, including potential prison sentences of 10 years for individuals and fines of up to \$210 million for companies.^[85]

Morrison handed down the 2018 Australian federal budget on 8 May.^[86] He subsequently rejected calls to increase the rate of the Newstart Allowance, saying "my priority is to give tax relief to people who are working and paying taxes."^[87]

Prime Minister of Australia (2018–present)

Leadership election

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull called a leadership spill on 21 August 2018 in order to gauge the confidence of the Liberal Party in his leadership.^[88] He defeated challenger Peter Dutton by 48 votes to 35.^[89] Over the following days, there was repeated speculation about a second spill being called, without Turnbull's approval. Turnbull announced two days later that he would resign the leadership if a spill motion were passed.^[90] Dutton, Morrison and Julie Bishop announced they would stand for the leadership if that were the case.^[91]

A spill motion was passed on 24 August by 45 votes to 40, and Turnbull did not run as a candidate in the resulting leadership vote. On the first ballot, Dutton received 38 votes, Morrison 36 votes, and Bishop 11 votes. On the second ballot, Morrison received 45 votes and Dutton 40 votes. He thus became leader of the Liberal Party and prime minister-designate. Josh Frydenberg was elected as the party's deputy leader, in place of Bishop.^{[92][93]} Morrison was widely seen as a compromise candidate, who was agreeable to both the moderate supporters of Turnbull and Bishop and conservatives concerned about Dutton's electability.^[94] He was sworn in as prime minister on the evening of 24 August.^{[95][96]} Upon assumption of office, Morrison would become Australia's fifth prime minister in eleven years, and the fourth prime minister in that time to enter office through a leadership



Morrison with Indonesian President Joko Widodo on his first overseas visit as prime minister

spill.^[97] Several months later, Morrison introduced new criteria for leadership spills, necessitating that a two-thirds majority vote from party members would be required to trigger one, in an attempt to stop "coup culture".^{[98][99]}

Soon after Morrison was sworn in, Nationals backbencher Kevin Hogan moved to the crossbench in protest of the wave of Liberal spills.^[100] Although Hogan continued to support the Coalition on confidence and supply and remained in the National party room, his departure to the crossbench and Turnbull's retirement from politics reduced the Coalition to a minority government of 74 seats.^{[101][102]} The Morrison Government remained in minority after Turnbull's seat of Wentworth was lost to independent Kerryn Phelps at a by-election.^{[103][104]}

First term

Morrison made his first overseas trip as prime minister less than a week after acceding to the office. He visited the Indonesian capital of Jakarta for the Australia–Indonesia Business Forum and met with President Joko Widodo, announcing the Indonesia–Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement that had been negotiated under the preceding Turnbull Government.^[105]

In October 2018, Morrison announced Australia was reviewing whether to move Australia's embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, and recognising Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.^[106] In December 2018, Morrison announced Australia has recognised West Jerusalem as the capital of Israel but will not immediately move its embassy from Tel Aviv.^[107]

DIVERTING ATTENTION - POINTING FINGER
In November 2018, Morrison privately raised the issue of Xinjiang re-education camps and human rights abuses against the Uyghur Muslim minority in a meeting with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang in Singapore.^{[108][109]}

In March 2019, Morrison condemned the Christchurch mosque shootings as an "extremist, right-wing violent terrorist attack." He also stated that Australians and New Zealanders were family and that the Australian authorities would be cooperating with New Zealand authorities to assist with the investigation.^[110] Morrison condemned "reckless" and "highly offensive" comments made by Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.^[111] Erdoğan repeatedly showed video taken by the Christchurch mosque shooter to his supporters at campaign rallies for upcoming local elections and said Australians and New Zealanders who came to Turkey with anti-Muslim sentiments "would be sent back in coffins like their grandfathers were" during the Gallipoli Campaign of World War I.^[112]

Second term

Domestic affairs



Morrison with U.S. President Donald Trump at the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires



Morrison with U.S. President Joe Biden at the UN General Assembly in New York City



Morrison with East Timor's president Francisco Guterres

Morrison led the Coalition into the 2019 election. At time of the writs being issued, the Coalition had been behind the Labor Party in most opinion polls for previous term of parliament, leading to widespread expectations that the Coalition would lose.^[113] However, in a significant upset, the Coalition retained its majority.^[114] This was considered to have been caused by the unpopularity of opposition leader Bill Shorten and Labor's failure to adapt to the re-framing of the election as a choice between Morrison and Shorten.^{[115][116]} Claiming victory on election night, Morrison stated that he had "always believed in miracles."^[117]



Morrison at 45th G7 summit in Biarritz, France

Bushfires

In December 2019, Morrison faced criticism for taking an unannounced overseas holiday with his family to Hawaii, United States during the 2019–20 Australian bushfire season.^{[118][119][120]} Morrison's office initially declined to comment on the length of his trip and his whereabouts, citing security concerns, and made false claims that Morrison was not in Hawaii.^{[118][121]} After increasing criticism from opposition politicians and on social media regarding the holiday, Morrison released a statement on 20 December that stated he "deeply regret[ted] any offence caused" and that he would cut his holiday short to return to Australia on 21 December.^{[118][122][123]}

On 22 November 2021, Morrison falsely claimed in parliament he had informed opposition leader Anthony Albanese that he was travelling to Hawaii.^[124]

Gov COVER UP - CONTINUOUS DENIED INVESTIGATIONS AND ACTIVITY

Response to parliamentary sexual misconduct allegations

The Morrison government was widely criticised for its handling of the 2021 Australian Parliament House sexual misconduct allegations, with an Essential poll finding that 65% of respondents (including 76% of Labor supporters, 51% of Coalition supporters and 88% of Greens supporters) saying the Government was more interested in protecting itself than women.^[125] As well as the Labor and Greens parties, the government faced criticism from within its own party. Former prime minister Malcolm Turnbull, who had been made aware of the allegations against Christian Porter in 2019, criticised him for taking too long to come forward.^[126] Former prime minister John Howard defended Morrison's decision not to open an independent inquiry into Porter's conduct.^[127] Australian of the Year and sexual assault survivor advocate Grace Tame also criticised Morrison in a speech to the National Press Club, saying she did not believe he was creating an environment where victims were believed.^[128] She also said "It shouldn't take having children to have a conscience" in response to Morrison's statement that he'd been prompted to reflect on the issue and decide to listen to Tame after a discussion with his wife Jenny Morrison where she said to him "you have to think about this as a father. What would you want to happen if it were our girls?"^[128] Porter resigned from his parliamentary position in September following concerns that he had accepted anonymous donations via a blind trust to pay for his legal expenses.^[129] The following month, Morrison and the Coalition successfully voted against a motion to investigate Porter's blind trust, in turn preventing the identities of the benefactors who donated to his legal costs from being revealed.^[130] Speaker of the Australian House of Representatives Tony Smith had determined there was a prima facie case and in voting down the motion, the Morrison Government became the first government since Federation to refuse a referral from the Speaker in Australian parliamentary history.^[131] This decision attracted significant attention and criticism from the media.^{[132][133][134][135][136]}

2017 FALSIFIED CONSPIRED DETAINMENT AND DIAGNOSIS.
Afghan refugees DISCREDIT THE CREDITABILITY OF THE TARGETED VICTIM 2012-2017 REPORTING ILLEGAL TARGETED ACTIVITY

— Exclusive

Brittany Higgins' accused to seek trial delay after PM apology

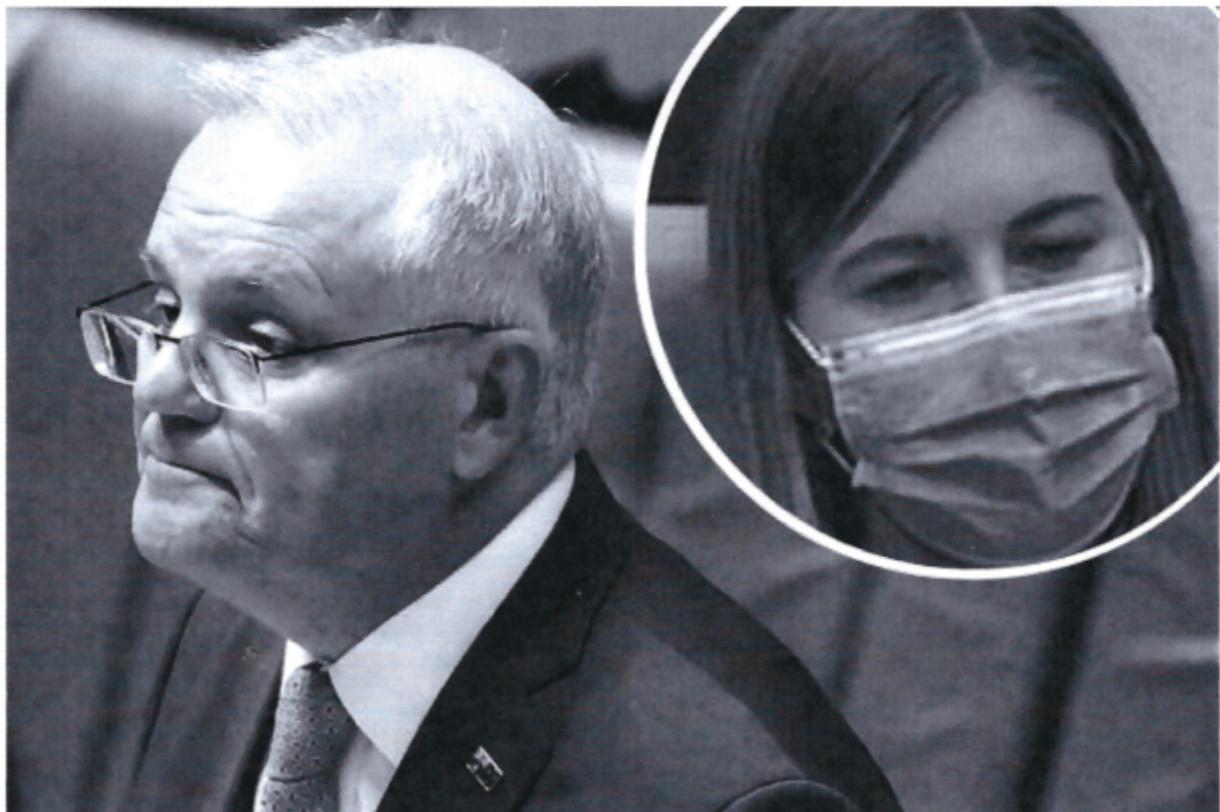
Ronald Mizen and Hannah Wootton

Feb 11, 2022 - 8.22pm

Prime Minister Scott Morrison's apology to Brittany Higgins in Parliament this week could contribute to an indefinite delay to her alleged rapist's criminal trial slated to be heard in the ACT Supreme Court in June.

Lawyers for the man accused of raping Ms Higgins said the comments were "extraordinarily prejudicial" to their client, Bruce Lehrmann, and that they would "be seeking a stay" on the criminal proceedings.

"The Prime Minister has mocked the rule of the law and the fundamental presumption of innocence upon which our criminal justice system is premised," solicitor Warwick Korn told *AFR Weekend*.



Brittany Higgins and Scott Morrison at Parliament House for Prime Minister's apology. Alex Ellinghausen, Nine

Mr Lehrmann is facing a charge of sexual intercourse without consent for the alleged assault in the Parliament House office of the former defence industry minister Linda Reynolds in the early hours of 23 March 2019.

He denies the allegations and has indicated a plea of not guilty.

But a successful stay application could see the trial delayed or aborted indefinitely.

The High Court has recognised very extreme cases of adverse pre-trial publicity could justify a stay of a prosecution.

Mr Korn did not indicate whether the request would be for a permanent end to the proceedings, or only temporary. A temporary stay may be granted until such a time when the memory of the events pass.

Following the comments, the ACT's Director of Public Prosecutions Shane Drumgold, SC, warned against "officers of the court and public figures" speaking on the matters currently before the court.

"I strongly discourage all public commentary on active cases, including commentary about commentary, and particularly by officers of the court and public figures," Mr Drumgold said.

Top prosecutor's warning

The issue of adverse pre-trial publicity is particularly pertinent in the ACT where the charge laid cannot be heard in a judge alone trial, but instead must be heard before a jury.

Lisa Parker, a University of South Australia criminal law lecturer, said Mr Morrison's apology to Ms Higgins in Parliament added more material to a series of incidents that would make finding objective jurors difficult.

"It's the totality of everything on this, the media and social media [coverage] which seemed to reach a peak with this apology," Ms Parker said.



RELATED

PM clarifies apology to Brittany Higgins after legal concerns

<https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/pm-clarifies-apology-to-brittany-higgins-after-legal-concerns-20220209-p59v0p>



RELATED

'We are sorry': Morrison apologises to victims of abuse

<https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/we-are-sorry-morrison-apologises-to-victims-of-abuse-20220208-p59uq8>

But the court would also need to consider the *significant public interest in trialling an alleged sexual assault that happened at Parliament House before deciding on the best course of action.

Mr Morrison on Tuesday delivered a statement of acknowledgement to the Parliament, [<https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/we-are-sorry-morrison-apologises-to-victims-of-abuse-20220208-p59uq8>] along with Labor leader Anthony Albanese, Nationals leader Barnaby Joyce and Greens leader Adam Bandt. The Prime Minister specifically mentioned Mr Higgins, who was present, in his remarks.

"I'm sorry to Ms Higgins for the terrible things that took place here. And the place that should have been a place of safety and contribution turned out to be a nightmare," he said.

Morrison clarifies apology

A spokesman for the Prime Minister on Thursday clarified that his comments were "by no means a reflection on the matters before a court."

[<https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/pm-clarifies-apology-to-brittany-higgins-after-legal-concerns-20220209-p59v0p>]

*"The Prime Minister was referring to the many terrible experiences Ms Higgins has detailed during her time working at Parliament House and the treatment that she has described receiving whilst working here," they said.

However, they did not respond to a question about whether legal advice was sought prior to the speech being delivered.

Winston Terracini, SC, one of Australia's leading defence barristers, said that Mr Morrison made the comments without any factual basis.

"He must have known his apology at this time is totally without foundation and that the allegations have not been tested," Mr Terracini said.

"The only apology that should be given is that his own and that he undertakes to keep his mouth firmly shut in relation to this trial.

SCOTT MORRISON - SEXUAL TARGETING

ABC NEWS

ANALYSIS

* Scott Morrison's missteps at managing allegations of rape, misogyny and sexism in Parliament fuel frustration within Coalition

By political reporter James Glenday

Posted Tue 23 Mar 2021 at 5:29am



The government's own attempts to deal with allegations of rape, misogyny and sexism have only served to keep the issue up in lights. (ABC News: Tamara Penniket)

Not long ago, a once-in-a-century flood might have been enough to drown out whatever scandal was oozing out of Parliament House.

In previous years, Coalition media advisers concede, they could not have wished for a better distraction than what's taking place on the east coast.

But this moment is different.

* Right now, the Morrison government's own missteps in dealing with sexual assault allegations and criticism about the workplace culture in Canberra have only served to keep the issue up in lights.

Consider the complex, messy revelations from yesterday.

The PM told parliament last week the secretary of his department, Philip Gaetjens, was investigating who in his own office was aware of Brittany Higgins's rape allegation before it was made public.



Investigation into when PM's office knew about rape allegation paused

But in Senate estimates, Mr Gaetjens revealed he had paused his inquiry two weeks ago, after getting "strong advice" from Australian Federal Police Commissioner Reece Kershaw.

The result?

Opposition Leader Anthony Albanese repeatedly accused Scott Morrison of misleading, basically lying, to Parliament, implying he was trying to avoid scrutiny and sweep another scandal under the rug.

Labor also quizzed the PM in Question Time over whether his office had briefed out dirt about Brittany Higgins's loved ones to journalists.

Nine times MPs asked. Not once did they get a straight answer from the PM.

Only a version of: "There is no information in front of me that is suggesting any of these things occurred."

At best, it all looked tricky.

Of course, most Australians don't closely follow what happens in Parliament, let alone the complex intricacies of who said what, when. And that means Coalition advisers are confident yesterday's events won't resonate far from Capital Hill.



Laura Tingle dissects the latest turmoil in Canberra. (Laura Tingle)

But within this building and broader political circles, the government has a problem.

An increasing number of current and former political staff are annoyed with Scott Morrison's tendency to dodge key questions, and a few of his recent comments — particularly the "bullets" for protesters remark he made last week — have caused frustration.

Some are deeply concerned at the glacial pace of cultural change in Canberra, and more are starting to share what they know.

More people are speaking out about the culture in Canberra

For example, just last week, three former female ministerial advisers anonymously spoke out about the sexist behaviour of a government staffer.

On Wednesday, media adviser Andrew Hudgson was sacked, after being accused in Tasmanian Parliament of calling a senior female politician a "meth head c***".



Some in Canberra, mostly women, believe they aren't being listened to and that sharing their stories is the only way to make a serious difference. (ABC News: Jenny Magee)

Channel Ten yesterday aired explosive allegations from an anonymous whistle-blower, including a claim about Coalition staff filming themselves performing solo sex acts on the desks of female MPs. A staffer was later sacked.

Then last night a security guard spoke to Four Corners about what happened on the evening Brittany Higgins was allegedly raped.

Discretion and loyalty are qualities highly valued in Parliament House. Speaking out, even anonymously, can have enormous, lifelong career consequences.

But some in Canberra, mostly women, believe they aren't being listened to and that sharing their stories is the only way to make a serious difference.

From the outset, the opposition has accused the PM of trying to manage the allegations of rape, misogyny and sexism as another political problem, instead of taking them seriously.

It is a view that seems to be starting to seep into a few in his own ranks.

At a minimum, Mr Morrison might be best advised not to feed that perception. He could start by directly answering questions.



Investigation into when PM's office knew about rape allegation paused

But in Senate estimates, Mr Gaetjens revealed he had paused his inquiry two weeks ago, after getting "strong advice" from Australian Federal Police Commissioner Reece Kershaw. * - PAUSED
 ENQUIRY INTO GOVERNMENT SEXUAL PREDATORY BEHAVIOUR - RAPE
 The result?

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PAUL GARDNER, QUEENSLAND - INDIVIDUAL INVOLVED AND CONNECTED - 2014-2015 CONSPIRED SEXUAL TARGETING*

In reference to my residence - "A piece of tin that is not attached properly and can be easily removed for entrance"

"Code : Uncle" - Michael Fetherstonhaugh, Regional development Board, Port Pirie / Business SA, Port Pirie/Enterprise Connect, Port Pirie is Paul Gardner's uncle (mothers maiden name Gail Fetherstonhaugh) - married name Gardner, wife of Roger Gardner, now Separated, Queensland

"And in comes America to rape and pillage"

"American copper" - When I was interacting with Zac /online dating site / Plenty of Fish - refer to file

Phone text message from Paul Gardner after 000 call to the Port Pirie Police Department reporting the threat of prostitution and 2 officers attending to the call in my place of residence [REDACTED] "The answer's staring at you in the face"

"I use to be a conman"

"I buy phone numbers"

"I buy number plates" - Refer to document - number plate given to me by Paul Gardner, Port Germain

STATED BY PAUL GARDNER 2015

"I was involved in Prostitution as a child, I was born into it"

"I could get \$200.00 for you on the market". "You know, hooking"

I was disgusted by this comment and thought that Paul Gardner must have been joking as he had a immature sense of humour and walked away from him at this point - It was said to me at the Port Germain Hotel when we went out to dine. Paul Gardner said that he was only joking and apologised. - Refer to unusual comment government and prostitution making the most money from your sons / threatening behaviour

* Probing the subject / suspicious * - GOVERNMENT PROSTITUTIONS

I was probing the subject of prostitution after these comments were made by Paul Gardner suspicious of his comments and wether he had been actually joking / starting to become fearful. When probed for answers Paul Gardner replied :

"I will put it to my dad" - Roger Gardner, Queensland

1 week later Paul Gardner replied:

*"Dad said yes, government approved, Howard approved it" * John Howard, Australian Government *
JOHN HOWARD - FEDERAL

One month later:

STATED BY PAUL GARDNER 2015

*"Your saved for prostitution by the government and I make the most money from your sons" - Attempted entrapment after this comment was made

Reported for threatening behaviour to the Port Pirie Police Department - 000 call centre transferred to Port Pirie Police Department

* GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN SEX CRIMES *

2015 SEXUAL TARGETING - JONNIE WESTON
CONNECTED TO RELIGION - FATHER / PASTOR

David Bradley, Tasmania, Medical Industry - SA Health - Australian Government -
Colleague of Adelaide University / Vincent Bulone - Refer to file 2018-Continual Sexual
Targeting following Detainment and Relocation

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT - SA GOVERNMENT
SA Health - Australian Medical Industry

SACAT - Detainment

SA Police - Metropolitan / Port Pirie Police Department / Crystal Brook Police Department -
Scott Bowman, father in law Paul Gardner / Federal Police / Australian Police Departments
Queensland - Townsville Fines Department - Refer to Excessive Rise in Utilities / Electricity
account - Exact location at precise time I am in that location / rural and metropolitan

Michael Fetherstonhaugh, Regional Development Board, Business SA, Enterprise Connect,
Government employee - Uncle to Paul Gardner

Military - Refer to file 2014 - 2016 Extreme Sexual Targeting David

Adelaide University - Julia Gillard, University Position / Government Grants / Vincent
Bulone - Refer to file 2018 Continual Sexual Targeting Following Detention and Relocation
Vincent Bulone

Telstra - Government Company / Foreign investors - Blocked phone number being recorded
on phone records - Matthew / Mat

Solinnov, Technology Development - Satellite and Radio Frequency Development supplied to
Government and Military Forces - Illegal Surveillance / Shared Illegal Surveillance

POLICE DEPARTMENTS :

American Police - Zac, Police Administration

Peter O'Neil - Port Pirie Police Department - Hanna O'Neil, Port Pirie Police Department /
Tammy Foster Portside Tavern, Port Pirie / public involvement

Port Pirie Police Department - Refer to Stage 3 Police Targeting

Scott Bowman - Father in law to Paul Gardner / Roger Gardner, Father to Paul Gardner
Gail Gardner, Mother to Paul Gardner (Maiden name Fetherstonhaugh)

Townsville Fines Department, Queensland - Fraudulent Activity / Excessive Rise in Utility
accounts

Newcastle Hotel - Refer to 2007 - 2009 Sexual Targeting - Newcastle Bouncer / Undercover
Police officer

COMMONWEALTH - RELIGION - GOVERNMENT CONNECTIONS

PAEDOPHILIA

Jonnie Weston *Father / Pastor - Religion *

**Royal Commissioner - Government, Tony Abbott, personal relationship with the priest that
the Royal Commissioner acquitted of all charges on a charge of Paedophilia**

WIKIPEDIA

CONSPIRED SEXUAL TARGETING - PAUL GARDNER

STATED/THREATENED: GOVERNMENT PROSTITUTION

STATED INVOLEMENT: JOHN HOWARD - CONTACTED BY

John Howard

PAUL GARDNER'S FATHER, ROGER GARDNER QUEENSLAND

*2007 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY THEFT - 2006-2009 MEDICAL BUS PLAN IN *
* GOVERNMENT'S POSSESSION *

John Winston Howard OM AC (born 26 July 1939) is an Australian former politician who served as the 25th prime minister of Australia from 1996 to *2007*, holding office as leader of the Liberal Party of Australia. His eleven-year tenure as prime minister is the second-longest in history, behind only Sir Robert Menzies, who served for eighteen non-consecutive years. He has also been the oldest living former Australian prime minister since the death of Bob Hawke in 2019.

Howard was born in Sydney and studied law at the University of Sydney. He was a commercial lawyer before entering parliament. A former federal president of the Young Liberals, he first stood for office at the 1968 New South Wales state election, but lost narrowly. At the 1974 federal election, Howard was elected as a member of parliament (MP) for the division of Bennelong. He was promoted to cabinet in 1977, and later in the year replaced Phillip Lynch as treasurer of Australia, remaining in that position until the defeat of Malcolm Fraser's government at the 1983 election.

In 1985, Howard was elected leader of the Liberal Party for the first time, thus replacing Andrew Peacock as Leader of the Opposition. He led the Liberal-National coalition to the 1987 federal election, but lost to Bob Hawke's Labor government, and was removed from the leadership in 1989. Remaining a key figure in the party, Howard was re-elected leader in 1995 (replacing Alexander Downer), and subsequently led the Coalition to a landslide victory at the 1996 federal election.

After defeating Paul Keating's Labor government in 1996, the * Howard Government was re-elected at the 1998*, 2001 and 2004 elections. Howard's actions as prime minister included implementing new gun laws in response to the Port Arthur massacre, the introduction of a nationwide value-added tax, immigration reform, and a controversial set of industrial relations reforms. Under his governance, Australia also contributed troops to the War in Afghanistan and the Iraq War, and led the International Force for East Timor. The Howard government was defeated at the *2007 federal election, with the Labor Party's Kevin Rudd succeeding him as prime minister. Howard also lost his own seat of Bennelong at the election to Maxine McKew, becoming only the second prime minister to do so, after Stanley Bruce in 1929. Following this loss, Howard retired from politics.

The Honourable
John Howard
OM AC



Howard in 2001

25th Prime Minister of Australia

In office

11 March 1996 – 3 December 2007

Monarch Elizabeth II
Governor-General Sir William Deane
Peter Hollingworth
Michael Jeffery

Deputy Tim Fischer
John Anderson
Mark Vaile

Preceded by Paul Keating

Succeeded by Kevin Rudd

Treasurer of Australia

In office

19 November 1977 – 11 March 1983

Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser

Preceded by Phillip Lynch

Succeeded by Paul Keating

Minister for Special Trade Negotiations

In office

17 July 1977 – 20 December 1977

In January 2008, Howard signed with the speaking agency called the Washington Speakers Bureau, joining Tony Blair, Colin Powell, Madeleine Albright, and others. He was available for two speeches, *Leadership in the New Century* and *The Global Economic Future*.^[127]

The Australian and New Zealand cricket boards unsuccessfully nominated Howard as their candidate for president of the International Cricket Council.^[128] Howard was the chairman of the International Democrat Union, a body of international conservative political parties, until December 2014, when he was succeeded by John Key of New Zealand.^[129] In 2008, he was appointed a director of the foundation established to preserve the legacy of Donald Bradman.^[130]

Howard's autobiography *Lazarus Rising: A Personal and Political Autobiography* was released on 26 October 2010.^[131]

In 2014 Howard published *The Menzies Era*, concerning the premiership of Prime Minister Robert Menzies.^[132]

Howard was the subject of a lengthy interview series by *The Australian* columnist Janet Albrechtsen in 2014, which aired as a featured story on Seven Network's Sunday Night, and again in January 2015 as its own five-part series on Sky News Australia entitled *Howard Defined*.^[133]

In November 2017, Howard launched the Ramsay Centre for Western Civilisation, headed by Simon Haines, formerly professor of English at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.^{[134][135]}

In 2017, Howard endorsed a "No" vote in the Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey and joined the campaign against same-sex marriage.^[136]

* CONNECTED TO RELIGION - PAEDOPHILIA - TONY ABBOTT ALSO CONNECTED
In February 2019, Howard provided a character reference for Cardinal George Pell, a senior leader of the Catholic Church in Australia and former Vatican Treasurer, whose conviction on five counts of child sexual abuse while Archbishop of Melbourne was later overturned by the High Court.^{[137][138][139]} Howard's character reference followed Pell's convictions, and was provided along with nine others^[140] to support Pell's barrister's submissions in the pre-sentencing hearing.^[141]

In October 2021, Howard endorsed Dominic Perrottet to succeed Gladys Berejiklian as Premier of New South Wales following Berejiklian's resignation as Premier.^[142]

Honours

Orders

- 26 January 2008: Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) "for distinguished service to the Parliament of Australia, particularly as prime minister and through contributions to economic and social policy reform, fostering and promoting Australia's interests internationally, and the development of significant philanthropic links between the business sector, arts and charitable organisations".^[143]
- 1 January 2012: Member of the Order of Merit (OM) by Queen Elizabeth II.^[144]

Medals

- 1 January 2001: Centenary Medal.^[145]

Foreign honours

- 15 June 2005: Star of the Solomon Islands (SSI).^{[146][147]}

WIKIPEDIA

*RELIGION PAEDOPHILIA - JONNIE NESTON / FATHER PASTOR
SEXUAL TARGETING. RELIGION

* **Tony Abbott** - CONNECTED TO RELIGION + UK - ANDREW PRINCE

Anthony John Abbott AC (/ˈæbət/^[3] born 4 November 1957) is an Australian former politician. He served as the 28th prime minister of Australia from 2013 to 2015, holding office as the leader of the Liberal Party of Australia.^[4]

Abbott was born in London, England, to an Australian mother and a British father, and moved to Sydney at the age of two. He studied economics and law at the University of Sydney, and then attended The Queen's College, Oxford, as a Rhodes Scholar, studying Philosophy, Politics and Economics. After graduating from Oxford, Abbott briefly trained as a Roman Catholic seminarian, and later worked as a journalist, manager, and political adviser. In 1992, he was appointed director of Australians for Constitutional Monarchy, a position he held until his election to parliament as a member of parliament (MP) for the division of Warringah at the 1994 Warringah by-election.

After the 1998 election, Abbott was appointed Minister for Employment Services in the Second Howard Ministry. He was promoted to cabinet in 2001 as Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business. In 2003, Abbott became Minister for Health and Ageing, retaining this position until the defeat of the Howard Government at the 2007 election. Initially serving in the shadow cabinets of Brendan Nelson and then Malcolm Turnbull, Abbott resigned from the front bench in November 2009, in protest against Turnbull's support for the Rudd Government's proposed Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS).^[5] Forcing a leadership ballot on the subject, Abbott narrowly defeated Turnbull to become the party's leader and Leader of the Opposition.

Abbott led the Liberal-National Coalition going into the 2010 federal election, which resulted in a hung parliament, and a narrow victory for the Australian Labor Party (ALP).^[6] Abbott remained as party leader, and led the Coalition to a landslide victory at the 2013 federal election, becoming prime minister. Upon assuming government, the Abbott Government introduced new border control measures known as Operation Sovereign Borders in an effort to stop illegal maritime arrivals,^[7] and abolished the Minerals Resource Rent Tax and Australia's carbon pricing

The Honourable
Tony Abbott
AC



Abbott in 2010

28th Prime Minister of Australia

In office

18 September 2013 – 15 September 2015

Monarch Elizabeth II
Deputy Warren Truss
Governor-General Dame Quentin Bryce
Sir Peter Cosgrove

Preceded by Kevin Rudd

Succeeded by Malcolm Turnbull

32nd Leader of the Opposition

In office

1 December 2009 – 18 September 2013

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd
Julia Gillard
Kevin Rudd

Deputy Julie Bishop

Preceded by Malcolm Turnbull

Succeeded by Chris Bowen

13th Leader of the Liberal Party

In office

1 December 2009 – 14 September 2015

Deputy Julie Bishop

NSW.

When Nestor found himself before a Wollongong magistrate in 1997 charged over the alleged indecent assault of a teenage altar boy, Abbott came to his defence with a character reference.

Asked to describe his friend, the then Parliamentary secretary to the Employment Minister said: "An extremely upright and virtuous man. I guess one of the things that I like very much about John when I first met him was his maturity - intellectual, social, emotional. And he was, to that extent I guess, a beacon of humanity at the seminary."

Abbott added that Nestor was a man with "high expectations of himself and others".

"I can recall ... being more than a little annoyed with him because he would want to bring me up to the mark, bring me back to the path of virtue from time to time and that didn't always go over too well with me."

The priest admitted in court that he had slept, wearing boxer shorts and a singlet, on mattresses on a floor in his presbytery with the boy and his younger brother some time between June and September 1991.

However he rejected the accusation he assaulted the boy.

Nestor was convicted in the Wollongong Local Court on February 18, 1997, and sentenced to 16 months in jail, with the magistrate describing it as a "gross breach of trust".

But the priest was bailed pending an appeal of the conviction and never served any time behind bars.

In October 1997, Nestor won his appeal to quash the conviction in the Wollongong District Court.

District Court Judge Joe Phelan questioned the validity of the boy's evidence, but said that Nestor should have been "more prudent".

"Inappropriate conduct does not prove that a criminal offence took place," the judge said.

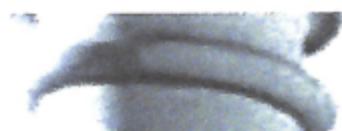
Judge Phelan said Nestor was of good character and had maintained his innocence.

Nestor celebrated with a drink with his supporters.

The boy's father angrily denounced the church, telling the *Illawarra Mercury* at the time: "I don't want to be associated with such hypocrites who one minute kneel down and pray and then blindly support the harassment of my family."

However, the suspended Nestor was never allowed back into church ministry.

He was referred to the church's NSW Professional Standards Resource Group, which kicked off a lengthy saga ending in him finally being struck off as a priest by the Vatican about five years ago.



Malcolm Turnbull

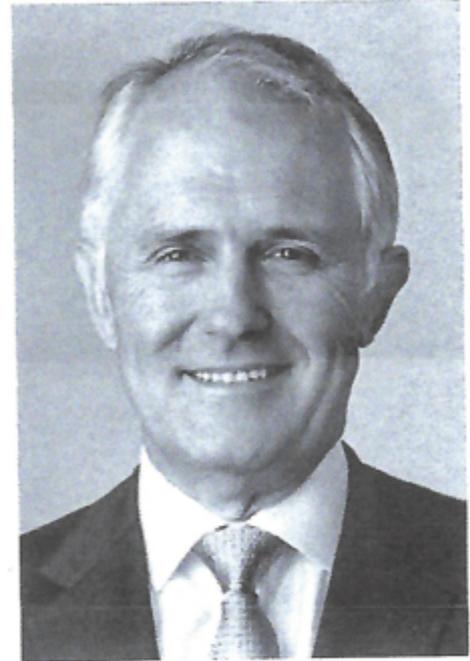
Malcolm Bligh Turnbull AC (born 24 October 1954) is a former Australian politician who served as the 29th prime minister of Australia from 2015 to 2018. He held office as leader of the Liberal Party of Australia.

Turnbull graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Laws, before attending Brasenose College, Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar, earning a Bachelor of Civil Law. For more than two decades, he worked as a journalist, lawyer, merchant banker, and venture capitalist. He served as Chair of the Australian Republican Movement from 1993 to 2000, and was one of the leaders of the unsuccessful "Yes" campaign in the 1999 republic referendum. He was first elected to the Australian House of Representatives as a member of parliament (MP) for the division of Wentworth in New South Wales at the 2004 election, and was Minister for the Environment and Water in the Howard Government from January 2007 until December 2007. - MEDICAL BUSINESS PLAN

After coming second in the 2007 leadership election, Turnbull won the leadership of the Liberal Party in a leadership spill the following year and became Leader of the Opposition. However, his support of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme proposed by the Rudd Government in December 2009 led in turn to a leadership challenge by Tony Abbott, who defeated Turnbull by a single vote. Though initially planning to leave politics after this, Turnbull chose to remain and was later appointed Minister for Communications in the Abbott Government following the Liberal-National Coalition's victory at the 2013 election.

Two years later, citing consistently poor opinion polling, Turnbull resigned from the Cabinet on 14 September 2015 and challenged Abbott, successfully reclaiming the leadership of the Liberal Party by ten votes. He was sworn in as Prime Minister the following day. The Turnbull Government initiated the National Innovation and Science Agenda as its key economic priority, working to promote STEM education, increase venture capital funding for new start-ups, and launch an "ideas boom".^[1] Turnbull also pursued "city deals" with local and state governments to improve planning outcomes and encourage investment in major infrastructure projects such as the Western Sydney Airport.^[2] In 2016, Turnbull led the Coalition to a narrow victory in a double dissolution election.^[3] In his second term, Turnbull initiated and campaigned for the "Yes" side

The Honourable
Malcolm Turnbull
AC



Turnbull in 2015

29th Prime Minister of Australia

In office

15 September 2015 – 24 August 2018

Monarch	<u>Elizabeth II</u>
Governor General	<u>Sir Peter Cosgrove</u>
Deputy	<u>Warren Truss</u> <u>Barnaby Joyce</u> <u>Michael McCormack</u>

Preceded by Tony Abbott

Succeeded by Scott Morrison

12th Leader of the Liberal Party

In office

14 September 2015 – 24 August 2018

Deputy	<u>Julie Bishop</u>
Preceded by	<u>Tony Abbott</u>
Succeeded by	<u>Scott Morrison</u>

In office

16 September 2008 – 1 December 2009

Deputy Julie Bishop