

## Women's Electoral Lobby (Australia) Inc

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### Tony Abbott Misogynist of the Week?

It's been a big week for misogyny this week, and Tony Abbott is leading the pack.

The Women's Electoral Lobby's *Misogynist Quote of the Week* award has received a number of nominations already this week, where last week there was only one.

"Misogyny appears to be getting worse the further into the campaign we go. Tony Abbott has been nominated twice this week already" said Kathleen Swinbourne, Elections Coordinator for WEL

"His playing of the gender card in the Great Debate was the first nomination. He followed this up by kissing his deputy instead of shaking hands in WA and saying 'my mum was a woman and my daughters are powerful girls.' We were waiting for him to say "some of my best friends are women". It shows that he still doesn't get it." Ms Swinbourne said

Admitting that their paid parental leave scheme would be paid at women's wages regardless of who was caring for children because "we couldn't afford men's wages" garnered nominations for Sharman Stone and Andrew Robb.

Eva Cox, Chair of WEL Australia said "The Liberal Party seems to think it's OK for women to be paid less money than men. This is something that WEL has been fighting for years, yet not only is the Liberal Party not doing anything about pay equity, they're exploiting it to cut costs in their paid parental leave scheme."

This could be why so many more women prefer Julia Gillard to Tony Abbott. Women recognise misogyny when they see it. After all, we've been living with it for a long time.

For all *Misogynist Quote of the Week* awards see WEL's website <http://wel.org.au/index.php/2010-election/latest-election-news/>

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