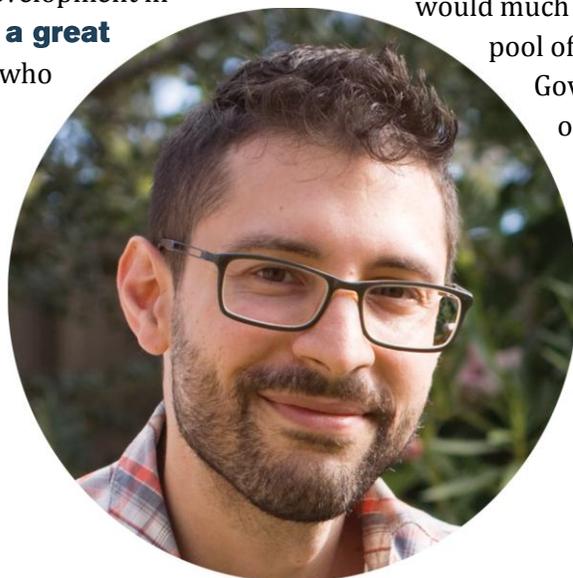


Statement by Dario Centrella,  
House of Assembly candidate  
for Unley, March 2018 election.

Hello, I'm Dario Centrella and I am running for the Unley seat in this state election.

I'm a BA Computer Science from Adelaide University and have worked in a variety of roles over the years, from programmer of software that assesses homes for thermal comfort and energy efficiency, to photographer and web developer.

You might remember me from when I was door-knocking and collected signatures for a petition against overdevelopment in Unley. **I considered it a great success.** Of the people who were interested, 80% signed! That's 731 people! When I presented the petition to the Unley Council however the mood changed. Perhaps they were scared of



upsetting the plans of the current State Planning Minister. Ultimately, they denied acting upon the petition and did not submit it as feedback to the Development Plan. **The interesting thing is, if they did we might have seen some quality development in Unley, rather than a bunch of poorly thought out designs failing to attract buyers.**

Democracy in planning is something that will create better outcomes and I am very passionate about it.

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I find myself in an ironic situation. Of the three tiers of government (Federal, State and Council), I am not convinced that our State Governments are particularly useful. I would much rather a vastly bigger pool of leaders at the Federal Government level, branching out into State Committees on health, education, and law, order and roads. I do wonder if we would do better without the middleman we call "State Government".

You might then ask, "Dario, why are you running for a State Government role!?"

I'm running for a number of reasons. Firstly we must work with what we have... at least for the time being.

Secondly, I cannot fully justify my position without a more learned experience.

I had a great high school economics teacher. Her name was Mrs Wong. I remember she taught a class about the Spiral of Poverty. She explained how in many third-world countries, families had many children so it was easier to work the farm. With each generation resources were spread thinner, creating a poverty spiral until famine, disease or war broke out. There are sadly still many places in the world where women are denied proper education or contraception and family planning. Two years after Mrs Wong's class, Howard ushered in baby bonuses and sky-high immigration. **The Spiral of Poverty was adopted in Australia!** Since 2003, 15 years ago, the sky-high immigration level has never been reduced. **Non-humanitarian intake needs to return to responsible levels.**

It's almost impossible to create lasting positive change from the sidelines when the rules are broken. Without the correct checks-and-balances the most unscrupulous, unsustainable and unethical are rewarded, forming a race-to-the-bottom. **Unless there are people like myself, who are not compromised by political donations and vested interests we will continue to see a slow degradation of all things that we value.** These things include, clean air, water, resources, decent work conditions, space to play and recycle and create, restorative environments, social cohesiveness and even nutritious food!

At an event in November last year the Shadow Minister of Planning, David Pisoni, inferred that Adelaide's population growth from immigration was not enough compared to Sydney and Melbourne. To give a brief background on the subject, **Adelaide is growing at an extreme rate of 10,000** people per year. It might be extreme but it's half the **absolutely mad** population growth rate of Sydney and Melbourne. I specifically pressed Mr Pisoni on this matter and he actually admitted that he wanted to double Adelaide's already

extreme growth rate to 20,000 per annum. This horrific admission was to be the final impetus for me to run, as a concerned, young South Australian.

Good democratic planning simply cannot survive the kind of rapid population growth that the big two parties (and Nick Xenophon) are thrusting upon us. We need people who will instead be advocates for good planning and a resilient future.

I will not win against Mr Pisoni, but we can **send him a message by voting CENTRELLA first** on our ballots. I have great respect for Mr Pisoni and I think that if enough of us vote **1** CENTRELLA he may reassess his flawed position on rapid population growth.

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A great natural history buff once told me about the native bettong. The bettong is a beaut' little marsupial, native to the Adelaide Hills, although you won't see them there anymore thanks to the exotic animals (foxes, rabbits, sheep, cats) we and the ancestors brought here.

Our ancestors had a slight problem with these burrowing critters. During the days when people rode horses, the bettongs' burrows were the inconvenient size for hooves to slip into. Galloping was definitely not recommended, unless you were prepared to put down your horse after it got a broken leg.

We are on a galloping horse of rapid population growth. I'm saying, "Stop! Find a better path! There's a bunch of bettong burrows ahead!"

**Please vote **1** CENTRELLA, Dario to stop forcing population growth now.**

Thanks for reading,  
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