

Chris Sidoti, Member of Mercy Works Inc Management Committee, and National Spokesperson Human Rights Council of Australia, talks at Mercy Works Inc Annual Meeting March 11, 2002



## THE CONTEST OF DEMOCRACY

*It is up to the Christian communities to analyse with objectivity the situation which is proper to their own country, to shed on it the light of the Gospel's unalterable words and to draw principles of reflection, norms of judgment and directives for action from the social teaching of the Church. (Octagesima Advenians #4 Paul V1)*

A way to take up this challenge may be to join Chris Sidoti in his reflection on the NATURE OF DEMOCRACY as it is experienced in Australia.

This talk explores the nature of our Australian DEMOCRACY, and articulates very clearly two opposing understandings which seem to inform the actions and reactions of many within our society.

The actions of our Government, when dealing with many issues, seem to be informed by a particular view of Democracy.

The reactions of many within Australia to those same issues, may be shaped by a different understanding of what it means to be part of a democracy.

Chris Sidoti argues for the need

*To make the contest between different understandings of democracy explicit*

*For the inclusive view of democracy to prevail*

*To establish the value or moral basis [for limiting] government action*

If you are interested in:

*Human Rights*

*Protection of minorities*

*Catholic Social Teaching*

*Values based civics*

*Democracy*

*Legal Studies*

this video may be for you.

Duration: 28 minutes.



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This video is available for purchase by filling in the following form and submitting it to: The Executive Officer, Mercy Works Inc, 1 Thomas Street, Lewisham NSW, 2049. Cost of \$30 includes postage and handling.

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