Citizens' reaction after referendum failure

After the referendum was announced as a failure last Sunday, citizens who voted "Yes" or "No" expressed their feelings and critically analyzed the reasons for this result.

Kourtnee Marsh, who voted "Yes", said she was surprised because the "Yes" campaign was well-promoted, and so many people had said "Yes". She did not know why people suddenly voted "No". "But I don't blame those who voted 'No' because the government's description of 'The Voice' is so vague," she said.

"I voted 'Yes', so I'm sad about the result. I've been reaching out to my indigenous friends, and I think it has affected them a lot more than me," Jule Olivin said. He believes that the differences in voting outcomes among states are associated with the level of education among the locals, with people in big cities more likely to vote "Yes" than those in rural areas.

Ellen Thomas, who voted "Yes", believes that the narrow margin between the "Yes" and "No" votes in Victoria may be because the Labor has been in power for a while, leading to more progressive attitudes and, consequently, more "Yes" votes.

"I voted 'Yes', but I'm not surprised by the referendum result. Some people may have voted 'No' because they believed that this referendum wouldn't change anything, even though they wished things to get better. For those who voted 'Yes', even if they knew there might not be a satisfactory outcome, they needed a symbolic gesture," said James Horseman, a teacher at the University of Melbourne.

Lachie McCurdy, who voted "no", said people who voted "yes" were very idealistic and some just made their choice without a clear reason, often influenced by their friends. In addition, McCurdy mentioned that giving too many privileges to Aboriginal people may exacerbate social inequality and lead to the division of the country. Therefore, he said that although the result of this referendum may appear to be one-sided, it is the right thing for Australia.

"Although the referendum may not have passed, I believe it highlights one fact, that more work might be needed for the Indigenous people, as well as realising what has already been done, so I think it is almost a good thing, and it has been raised," McCurdy said.

"I voted 'No', and I'm not surprised by this result. None of my friends believe that the voice of a certain group is equal to the law. I'm not going to discount the idea that Aboriginals shouldn't; I think they should be treated as the land's first inhabitants. They are special people in that regard. But I'm just not sure about the powers being enshrined in that referendum to add it to the Constitution as well as a bit strange," said William Sleeman, a student from the University of Melbourne.

The Australian voice referendum results show that "No" received 61% of the total votes, while "Yes" received 39%. In all six Australian states, "No" votes outnumbered "Yes" votes, with Victoria having the closest margin at 45% "Yes" and 55% "No." Queensland had the highest "No" vote, with a significant 69%. The "Yes" votes in Western Australia and South Australia were both below 40%.

According to The Guardian, Regions with a high proportion of Indigenous Australians overwhelmingly voted yes in the referendum. 74% of the 11,000 people who live in Lingiari's remote areas voted yes, according to figures provided by Labor MP for Lingiari, Marion Scrymgour. "I don't want them to feel depressed or to feel alienated or to feel that their vote went nowhere," she said. "So, we just need to make sure we continue to give them hope. And that tomorrow, things will get better." Scrymgour said.

According to the official referendum booklet the Australian Electoral Commission issued, the referendum is on "A proposed Law: to alter the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice. " "Yes" supports this idea, and "No" opposes it.