

Brown wants clarity on Brethren links

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Greens Leader Bob Brown has called on a Tasmanian Liberal candidate to reveal his links to the religious group, the Exclusive Brethren.

The Greens leader says Bass Liberal candidate Michael Ferguson vouched for a New South Wales elder of the Christian organisation and allowed him access to Parliament.

Senator Brown says he has no problem with the Liberal Party's connections to the group, but he wants the relationship to be made public.

"I have no trouble with people signing in folk to Parliament House but you have to vouch for them, you have to vouch for their character and you have to know who they are," he said.

"Michael Ferguson should talk about his relationship with the Exclusive Brethren elders and make it clear."

Mr Ferguson has labelled Senator Brown's comments as "perverse" and says he has signed in at least 200 people during in his time in Parliament.

"It's my job to make sure all of the community is represented not just our favourite sections," he said.

"There are no links, and I just wonder why would Senator Brown be behaving this way, it seems to me to be just pre-election smearing and I think it's very unfortunate."

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