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Exclusive Brethren looks to 2008 election

Newsroom.co.nz agency story

The Exclusive Brethren Church is planning campaign strategies for the next election despite criticism over its involvement in the 2005 vote.

The Church ran a controversial \$1.2 million campaign against Labour and the Greens before the last election.

The Government has said it hopes proposed electoral law reform will stop negative third-party campaigns.

But Brethren spokesperson, Neville Simmons, says the Government is attempting to bully its critics into silence with plans to limit third-party campaigning.

He says the Church learned a lot during the last election and is now looking at what its strategy will be, if it chooses to get involved in the 2008 election.

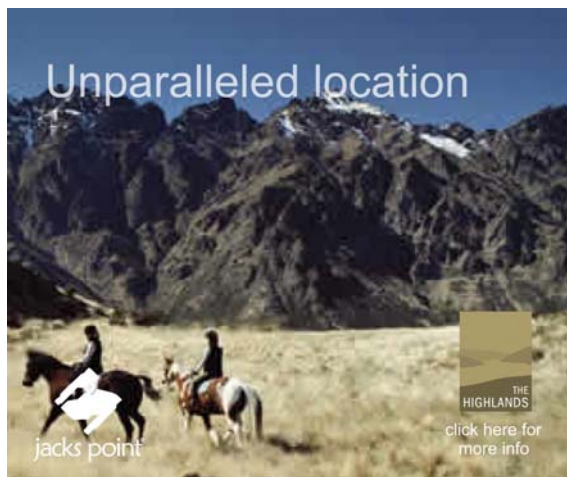
Mr Simmons says it is also not afraid of law reform aimed at making campaigns more transparent.



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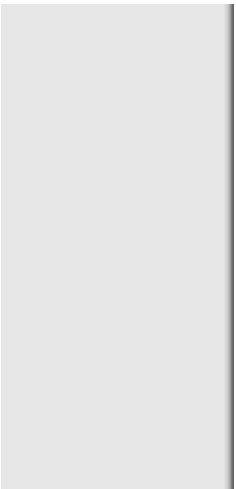
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