I do not consider it sufficient to just achieve a 50:50 gender split of MPs, as this will only weakly filter down to the voters and constituencies. I think one should consider a harder task of ensuring that every constituency experience on average a 50:50 ratio of gender of their parliamentary members.

This will avoid there being parts of the population who never have experience of having their representative being of their own gender.

There is a simple technical way of achieving this when one looks at the system over time. At an election there are 2 possibilities

a) the sitting member stands for re-election.

All the other candidates standing must be of the opposite gender.

b) The sitting member is unavailable for re-election.

All candidates must be of the opposite gender.

This is robust to any future time limit on how long a person can be a member of parliament.

The effect is that every constituency will, over time, have alternating genders for their representatives. And any large adverse ratio away from 50:50 will quite swiftly be corrected.

There are other beneficial effects.

- the parties will quickly generate a large pool of each gender available to stand and having experience of standing.
- There is a bias towards the opposite gender of the sitting member in an election, which will ensure more thoughtful considerations of that member
- It will break up biases in the party selection processes

I recommend that this simple approach be given consideration

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