

Good Morning

I would like to raise my concern about the changes to the parenting payment to newstart. This new budget is going to hurt me and my two boys terribly. It isn't just about \$60 a week, which is a huge enough blow. I work casually as a motel cleaner so my wage differs week to week depending on how many room I clean. I always had a part pension on the quiet times, now when I earn \$200 there is no extra financial help. \$200 a week is not enough to live on.

I thought the newstart payment was for people who could work anywhere, anytime, any shift? I cant do this, I cant leave my soon to be 8yr old alone? I have never been on the dole. I am already doing my centrelink requirements for keep receiving my parenting payments, so why make me live on less money? The father of my children pays me \$7 a week in maintenance so that is no help. I am both mum and dad to my children, no break, the boys father is not at all interested in them, I am there fulltime carer. In a fair world he would have the boys every 2nd weekend and half the holidays, but life is not always fair. My boys play footy and there they have wonderful strong caring male role models. I don't know how I am going to be able to tell them that they will have to give up their sport, but they will have too. Just providing the basics looks to be impossible now.

I always worked in factories prior to having children, of course I cant do that now as I cant work the shifts. Plus all the factories seem to be closing anyway.

As I am on newstart I am not eligible for social housing. We will not be able to access the pension education supplement to help us study. This will hurt us in many ways.

Why is it that a drug addict can receive a disability pension, but a parent cant recieve a parenting payment ?

Now lets talk about what these changes will really cost. The women who don't want to work, wont its that simple. They will have another baby, get the baby bonus, extra family assistance, and wont have to fulfil the centrelink requirements. These new so called budget cuts encourage the welfare baby makers/bludgers to have more babies. Its already been happenining since the baby bonus was brought in and since the welfare to work changes as well. More births, more children abused an neglected while the no hoppers just keep having babies and people like me are punished. These budgets cuts will end up costing money to the tax payer, as well as the cost to society.

Why didn't the government talk to people in the real world before making these changes, the nurses, welfare workers, the teachers ???

Where are these jobs coming from? What about childcare places?? There is no weekend or night childcare places where I live. What about the women who have no access to public transport , childcare or live in isolated areas??? I have always thought that the single mums who genuinely cant get work, should be able to do voluntary work like I have done for the past 3 yrs .

My baby boy who I love dearly turns eight in January, for his birthday he gets to slide even further below the poverty line. Please help us, we are not all bludgers some of us are trying to bring up our children to be the next generation of strong well adjusted adults. Please don't make our job harder. I am feeling very desperate right now.

Kind Regards

[Redacted]