

To whom it may concern,

I am a single mother who has unfortunately heard of the bill to cut the single mother's pension when the child turns eight and put the mother on Newstart. I am horrified at the situation for all the single mothers this will effect and feel a deep empathy for them. I myself am a single mother who was paying \$240 a week for a bedsit with my child. Luckily I have managed to find co-op housing but have still chosen to stay home with my son (although have worked part-time occasionally) for the first four years. Obviously it is good to give mothers the choice to do this with smaller children, and I will be returning to study shortly.

This is not such a happy story for all single mothers though. Many are paying exhorbarant amounts of rent and effectively, yes even in Australia, unable to feed their children properly. The decrease in the pension, I believe, is an abuse of human rights and will effectively be taking food out of children's mouths. I could go on and on about this issue, and their is just so much to say about the way single mother's are living at the moment, but it is to emotional for me at present, I just can't beleive that such an economically marginalised group have been targeted in such a cruel way.

Regards

[Redacted]