

SUBMISSION NO. 110



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NSW

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am a single mother to my almost three year old son. 


I pay half my income each fortnight in mortgage/rates to live in a modest 3BR fibro home across the road from Department of Housing dwellings. I do not receive even a part pension, and as such, do not have a Health Care card or receive discounts on a wide range of goods and services as do those receiving sole parents pensions. I do receive, and am grateful for, approximately 70% Child Care Benefit and receive \$75 per week in Family Tax Benefit, without which my standard of living would be significantly lower.

I am writing to you to express my disgust at the government's attempt to encourage people to have more children. The carrying capacity (maximum population) of our country is fast being approached, and we do not need to increase the rate at which people in this country are breeding. While obviously being wonderful and rewarding, children are a want, not a need. I resent women being paid \$3,000 for giving birth. If you wish to bring children into this world, then you should be able to provide for them. This ridiculous \$3,000 payment is encouraging far too many welfare dependent people to have children meaning that children are often being born into abusive environments where they are not even wanted. Such children often continue in the cycle of welfare dependency and abuse, at the expense of the rest of the community.

The proposal to force sole parents back into the workforce when their children are of school age, falls short of the mark. A friend of mine who is a Family Day Care mother, once had a little girl whose mother received 20 hours per week of free Family Day Care and this mother did not even have to study, search for work or be employed to receive this free care. I believe these people should be back in the workforce well before their children are of school age. I would prefer my taxes to be spent on retraining these people, or employing people to supervise them in community project work than to just be given out to them for no return in the form of the Sole Parents Pension and the PBS.

I would also like to see more child care places made available, as there appears to be a great shortage of quality child care in NSW both in Sydney and in regional areas.

Yours faithfully,

