

Dear Committee Secretary

As a single mother of a 13 year old I have attempted to maintain a supportive, healthy and fully available home to my daughter. Living on the minimal amount we have lived on, I strongly object to any indication of lowering it! We have always lived in share housing to afford the rent as well as bills and food. I am currently funding my own education to return to the workforce with my own business, thus being available to support my daughter during these intense years of emotional support necessary during the teenage years. Please don't underestimate the need of those between the ages of 11 to 16 as these times are imperative to support a fully responsible young adult or a ignore rebellious young adult that will be doing harm to self and possibly others. There is no "child care" needed for 13 year olds, but there is DEFINATELY the need of a parent, ESPECIALLY when there is only one, to guide the experience of growing up. Please support me in supporting her, if we are on the same side, I am sure that her life will be one of greatness!

Katherine Cunningham