

To  
Elton Humphery  
Committee Secretary  
Community Affairs Committee  
Department of the Senate  
Parliament House Canberra ACT



Dear Sir,

Until some years ago, I was under the impression that Australian Governments were governing this country in the interest of Australia and of the People. I am sorry I have to say that this is obviously not the case. It appears that our present Government is only willing to allow overseas corporate enterprises get fat on our natural resources. Not enough of that, through our Prime Ministers drive to create more entrepreneurial positions and by failing to introduce corporate scrutiny, corporate rip-off is gone out of hand. This trend is especially obvious within privatized essential services such as water, electricity, telephone, hospitals, education etc and in supermarkets, insurances and loan & financial institutions. We are now in the claws of a US type corporate dictatorial system where the wealthy are getting richer and the public is getting poorer. Pensioners and people with low income are affected most.

A newspaper report stated that a survey revealed that aged pensioners in Australia were financially better off than ever before. Surely, this must have been a joke! Maybe those that conducted the survey should live on our miserly aged pension for a while to open their eyes. They surely would change their tune when the ever-increasing bills are rolling in and there is no more money for food. Maybe these people should do a survey in supermarkets to record pensioners purchasing dog bones to make soup from or due to bad eyesight taking of supermarket shelves out of date food that should have been destroyed long ago. In fact, the majority of Australia's aged pensioners are diagnosed suffering from malnutrition. This is mainly due to lack of finance and the rapid increase in the cost of living.

Financial institutions are cashing in on this situation by offering to pensioners with property or homes, loans repayable after death. I am calling this blood money. However, often there is no other way to have a somewhat decent life.

Our aged people have no Union to protect them from bad governments and rip-off enterprises and our politicians don't care. Little notice is given to the fact that our aged people made this country to what it is today. Australia's politicians should be ashamed of themselves letting such injustice happening while our government is supporting the USA with billions of dollars in their self-inflicted quarrel with Iraqi.

Respectfully,