

Inquiry into planning options and services for people ageing with a disability

SUBMISSION TO SENATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Why disabled persons are of value to our community?

During a period when globally left politics gained ascendance, the UN began to prioritise the inclusion of disabled people into the mainstream – to have equal rights to quality opportunities and lifestyles. The UN year of Disabled persons was officially announced in 1981. Gough Whitlam had already put forward huge reforms across the spectrum in this country – possibly due to his wartime experience of comradeship with hugely diverse ranges of persons – with largely common goals.

- The major gain to promote full participation and equality of all persons would be economic gains initially. Having full participation would enable People with a Disability to become self-supporting and contributing community members, circulating income and ideas like all others.
- The constraints are the cost of providing aids and restructuring all workplaces across the nation to facilitate this move towards full employment participation no matter what the age.
- A second gain would be the value of seeing happy people and happy faces around the globe. Having people with disabilities treated kindly promotes compassion (and other good Christian values) without necessarily interfering with progress. In fact, happy people make a more productive workforce.
- It would reduce the unnecessary levels of competition that are so inordinately damaging to individual's lifestyles in workplaces across the country and globe. This promotes productivity rather than detracting from it. It also produces a quality of attitude towards everyone in each workplace – not just the most loud or pushy persons who tend to succeed in the current status quo.
- Having an approach that encourages participation and equality for all people would necessarily incorporate means to address individual abnormalities inherited from a previous lifestyle.

This would help us all activate extreme caution when dealing with anyone who appears radical – for whatever reasons – in order to ascertain what is behind their radicalism. And strategies or approaches put in train to aid and/or assist them to overcome whatever barriers are coming between them and normal integration into the mainstream.

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For instance in the past solicitors and the legal professions earned huge sums of money for protecting the guilty and taking punitive action against innocent parties. Deaths resulted as huge sums of money changed hands.

Even those who appear in opposition to this new way of life, may in fact be contributing by their outrageous outbursts to a new era in which everything within reason is an acceptable form of expression, as long as it curtails intended harm for others. Diversity is the key.

Recognising and appreciating diversity may not be as difficult as thought – if we all change within the same time span – to share understandings of difference in relation to diversities.

In saying this, it needs to be recognized that early learning produces enormous benefits and barriers. And the way we procreate and train children for their future life, may need to undergo serious revision for any reforms to be lasting.

Spats in the workplace have always been councilable – the Senate is a good example of this. Sitting members can make statements that often conflict with others views and this is the way a good parliament conducts its work.

In workplaces, such spats may lead to positive outcomes or to the removal of one person from their place of work to an alternative setting. In a transitional environment, managers – or the Speaker of the House - will be the arbiters and suffer fewer removals than workers further along the food system.

There has during the Coalition era been a revisionism which promotes both Evolution and Creationism to form a basis for all value systems. Opinions on either side have become firmly entrenched. Survival of the fittest is the major parallel for both. This has meant that criminals who have used brute force or corrupt behaviour – have survived far better than others with more succinct moral integrity. This includes money launderers, people who conduct forgeries, cops who enact the crimes they are meant to protect us from, medical professionals who perform terminal treatment in lieu of life giving cures, teachers who practice pornography on small children or teenagers under their influence, and who take upon themselves to make decisions about “who goes left and who goes right”, sadly! Change is on the wing.

A new view of all criminal behaviour points to deficits in that persons background – not excusing all forms of crime which need to be dispensated for – but promoting understanding for change in lieu – in some cases where family support systems have survived to such a level that sacrifices are made to protect aberrant family members incurring further revisionism further down the line in order for dispensations to be accomplished satisfactorily.

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It points to recognition that not all disabilities are based in economic deficits nor in material deficits, some are based in emotional deficits with roots going back centuries past and need careful amelioration for all concerned. All crimes against other humans are self protective in some form, but sometimes innocent victims are harmed. This equates to war time mentalities and men and women's experiences of harm may differ – leading to different expressions of the Asbergers syndrome.

Social isolation (for whatever the reason) may figure profoundly in this. And traditionally persons with any form of physical deficit have suffered profoundly from social deficits.

Living with crime affects all the community.

Supporting participation and integration of disabled persons and those who support them within their families, necessarily means putting aside issues pertaining to the above two concepts since both favour the segmentation of society and the killing off of less able members rather than a compassionate approach to everyone within society.

Those who threaten others from power bases can expect retaliation in similar vein from disempowered persons whose only weapon may be verbal. People who threaten others are drawing attention to themselves with the aim of highlighting some form of disaster or abnormality and they require ongoing attention until such time as their situation eases.

Paranormal stalking has become one of the most crudest forms of brutality and those who employ it need careful handling. In medical jargon this term may relate to an Asbergers syndrome along which there are various gradings. Recognising these syndromes may be seen as a badge of honor or may be seen as a sign of criminality depending on which view you take.

Marital wars have formed the basis in the recent past for uncontained revenge agendas – especially from parenting partners who do not feel sufficiently liked by their offspring to guarantee their viability. This means attitudes to families needs to change or nothing will work.

Persons with disabilities often have hidden strengths and diversity of ideas to contribute to the mainstream. Each person has their own specific deficits and needs which require addressing in order for the whole to become cohesive.

Recognising the different strengths of each disability and the different weaknesses helps each one of us to be more careful in what we think and say about others – self proection from unwanted attention becomes possible when

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competition is not the operative word but is replaced by compassion with integrity.

Thanks for attention to these issues and the opportunity to put them forward.

Within mainstream society, the following priorities need addressing more succinctly:

- 1) Health and alternative
- 2) Employment and self esteem and income streaming
- 3) Leisure activities – cultural and recreational
- 4) Mobility/immobility- and all other barriers to integration
- 5) Age can form significant barriers all of its own
- 6) Economic
- 7) Education and life long learning
- 8) Social barriers – Cultural constraints – taboos towards learning, change, sport, business, commercial operations, ageing, disabilities, etc.
- 9) Accommodation
- 10) Need for quiet spaces – such as parks and gardens and reading rooms, music rooms, lounge space
- 11) Parent planning
- 12) Child rearing

- ACCEPTANCE OF DIFFERENCE IN ALL ITS DIVERSE ASPECTS
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF STRENGTHS AND SHARED GOALS
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DEFICITS AND PLANNING TO OVERCOME THESE CONJOINTLY

Chosen leaders (being those in Parliaments initially) to organize all of this. And to instruct and recruit leaders to carry out the transition to change.

At Highwood Health where they have various alternative means to overcome traditional serious and less serious health problems – they ask sick people to have the good grace to make small and minor sacrifices for others by foregoing small portions so that others more needy may avail themselves and better recover also.

This promotes an air of self sufficiency in all aspects of human health. Which a helping hand now and again gives an edge to. This way of life could be seriously promoted as appealing to vast cross sections of the community who would like to make a switch to vegetarianism and its accompanying spirituality. Government funding may be most appropriate to facilitate all those who need this. And outcomes may be far better promoted than hospital recovery rates. A different perspective on all forms of professions may need to be undertaken revising

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university curriculums to inform and educate rather than promote high income earning on graduation

Thanks for examining this with a view towards changes to be implemented directly.