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Subject: GOVT EXPENDITURE & TAXATION

Australia is now the most highly taxed nation in the Pacific, & amongst the top four in the world. Budgets at all levels of government show the reason-Social Security & handouts, a phenomena which has persisted since 1972! The main problem is not the traditional Australian concept of caring for those who cannot physically or mentally care for themselves, but that persistent percentage of fit, healthy, young, who could work, but use the "system" to avoid making any useful contribution.

The reality is that this "group" produces children, who, in turn, perpetuate the problem, and, since two adults with four children receive about the same as a single breadwinner on MTAW (less tax), there is no incentive for either adult to seek work or to develop skills. It can be shown that this "group" costs the taxpayer about \$20 billion annually! Now, in the late 1980's, there were no jobs, this could be justified, but, today, even with the drought, there are agricultural jobs (some recently filled by "refugees") small business vacancies for RELIABLE staff, nursing (about 2000) positions, defence (about 1000) forces, and shortages of skilled trades, electricians, technicians, & plumbers. So, there can be NO JUSTIFICATION for this generosity to continue, despite the bleats of ACOSS! Access to benefits is TOO EASY, and that cannot be justified. If a young, healthy person capable of training for a vacancy or serving in the Forces refuses to do so, or deliberately sabotages job opportunities (as some do) then that individual's dole should be stopped! Any Centrelink desk officer will tell you who are "genuine" & who are not.

The proof of the imprudence of taxing workers to pay for the idle is shown in the way in which wealthy business, media, sporting, and entertainment "australians" move offshore, primarily to the USA, where the top tax rate is 32% in the \$. Not only does the nation lose the direct employment these people could provide, but also the income taxes they would pay if they stayed in Australia.

The way ahead is clear:

- a. The onus of proof for benefits for fit, young, people must be placed upon the applicant.
- b. Where any vacancy remains, any person suitable should not receive benefits unless that person can prove that they cannot do that work.
- c. Parenting allowances should be limited to two children.
- d. Travel fares must be provided for the unemployed to move to where work exists.
- e. Adult apprenticeships must be reinstated in the Defence Forces- these proved successful during Vietnam. This reduces unemployment, and produces taxpaying trades.
- f. Family Trusts must be taxed as individuals are taxed.
- g. By the foregoing, income taxes can be reduced.

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