

ATTENTION –

MR KEN HENRY
Chairman
Australia's Future Tax System Review.

Dear Mr Henry,

Thank you for your letter of 17th December 2008.

I would like to suggest that where a person -

- is responsible for the dependency / wellbeing of a partner
- and children that have been born to that partner
- and that partner wishes to remain at home and maintain the home and rear the children –

that person should be able to earn income that is tax free –

- providing that the two partners remain together in the same abode –
- the one partner at home rearing the children and maintaining the home
- the other partner earning income –
- and the children remain at the home of the partners and are dependent on the single income.

That the tax free benefit can be altered to reflect any income earned by the home partner –

But only after all the children have gone to school and there is no requirement for the home partner to be at home during the day.

It seems to me that the desire of families to earn multi incomes is seriously eroding the ability of parents to provide their children with the company of a partner at home to shepherd their children through their early years by being at home with them as opposed to farming them out to childcare at a very young age.

It seems to me further that there would be only winners here – children / parents / Australians / community at large

The scheme would be optional.

Funding would be afforded through –

Reduced childcare payments
Reduction in the holistic costs of all types of crime
Improved health of parents and children through better food preparation – therefore
Reduction in health costs across the board
Reduction homelessness and mental illness.
etc. etc.

In other words the almost immeasurable benefits arising from real traditional family unit lifestyle.

The Government in my opinion can make a major contribution towards this great goal – given how far away we have moved from the Australian Family model that was so successful in the past – to our great national cost in human suffering and overall dollars spent to redress that suffering.

Kind regards

Robin

Robin Jervis-Read