

## SECOND SUBMISSION - AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE TAX SYSTEM REVIEW

by: Ron Brons

on: 21 Nov 2008

as follows:

### 1) BLATANT DISCRIMINATION AGAINST SOCIAL SECURITY RECIPIENTS:

As I documented in my first submission to this inquiry dated 17 Oct 2008, the SINGLE UNEMPLOYED have been heavily discriminated against by both Labour and Liberal federal governments in relation to the amount of "Newstart" unemployment benefit they are paid as compared to single age pensioners.

Under the current Rudd Labour federal government, the single, adult unemployment benefit is a massive \$112.80 per fortnight LESS than the single age pension (this is EVEN WORSE than what it was under the previous Howard Liberal federal government !).

When one tries to make a complaint about this blatant discrimination to the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC), one gets told that federal governments have EXCLUDED the Social Security Act from being considered by HREOC.

I find this EXTREMELY HYPOCRITICAL !

Politicians from both Liberal and Labour federal governments have been OBSESSED with extremely extensive anti-discrimination legislation for women, yet social security recipients have been TOTALLY IGNORED.

And many "pro-bono" human rights lawyers have been OBSESSED with the human rights of ILLEGAL immigrants, yet have TOTALLY IGNORED the human rights of Australia's long-term unemployed.

I BELIEVE YOUR INQUIRY SHOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD CHANGE THE LAW SO THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (HREOC) CAN CONSIDER COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION RELATED TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT, INCLUDING COMPLAINTS ABOUT RELATIVE RATES OF PAYMENT.

### 2) RENT SUBSIDY DISCRIMINATION AND THE UNEMPLOYED:

Another area where the unemployed are discriminated against is the area of rent subsidies.

An unemployed person who rents gets a substantial rent subsidy, yet an unemployed person who has a mortgage GETS NOTHING AT ALL !

This, too, is blatant DISCRIMINATION.

I BELIEVE YOUR INQUIRY SHOULD RECOMMEND THAT AN UNEMPLOYED PERSON WITH A MORTGAGE SHOULD BE ENTITLED TO A MORTGAGE SUBSIDY EQUIVALENT TO THE RENT SUBSIDY RECEIVED BY AN UNEMPLOYED PERSON WHO RENTS.

### 3) UNFAIR TRIPLE TAXATION:

When a person earns money in a job, they pay tax; when they next put that money into a bank account, they pay tax for a second time; when they then take the money out of that bank account and spend it, they pay tax for a third time.

THIS IS MOST UNFAIR AND A TOTAL RIP-OFF !

PLEASE RECOMMEND THAT SOMETHING IS DONE ABOUT THIS EXTREMELY UNFAIR PRACTICE.

Yours sincerely,

Ron Brons