



Council for the National Interest

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN COMMITTEE

Autumn Newsletter

IN THE DEFENCE OF THE FAMILY

Despite a most concerted campaign, by CNI and many other organisations, against the State Labor Government's so-called reforms of the Family Law and Homosexual Laws, the two Bills have passed through the Legislative Council and, subject only to very minor amendments, are to become law. Under the guise of "equality" and "non-discrimination" the Attorney General, Mr McGinty, the Premier, Dr Gallop and their Labor colleagues have mounted a savage attack on the traditional family and on the children in our society.

The CNI is concerned with the national interest. The stability and viability of the traditional family is in the national interest. This is one reason why CNI has strongly promoted the concept of a Family Impact Statement (FIS) against which all Government decisions and legislation would have to be tested for any adverse effects on the family. Had such a FIS been in place in Western Australia, these changes in their current form would not have passed the test and consequently would have been amended to eliminate the adverse effects on the family. It is imperative that we all continue to promote the adoption of a Family Impact Statement in every way possible.

Western Australia should not forget that, by denying Labor politicians a conscience vote on these very contentious issues, Dr Gallop has disenfranchised many thousands of electors opposed to these "reforms". Some Parliamentary representatives who were equally opposed, have been obliged to vote in favour or lose pre-selection for the next election.

CONTENTS

In Defence of the Family.....	1
The Crisis Facing Australia.....	2
GATS & Taxation paid for by Foreign Companies.....	2
Democracy at Risk.....	2
What is to be Done.....	2

The Labor, Greens and other politicians who supported this legislation should be voted out at the first opportunity.

THE CRISIS FACING AUSTRALIA

Australia is facing a future where, on current trends, the population is ageing, the fertility rate is declining and there will be a decline in population. Additionally there will be fewer taxpayers to meet an increase demand for health and welfare services leading to the question "What is to be done?"

Is the answer an increase in population or maintenance of the status quo? If it is to be an increase in population from where does the increase come? Substantial incentives for new births? Increased migration? If the latter from where do they come and under what conditions? How does Australia preserve its culture? Is multiculturalism, as presently understood, sustainable? Alternatively is our present culture sustainable? In either case what are the options? If the status quo is to be preserved, how will health, social security, education and other government services be funded from the declining tax base?

The WA Committee of CNI has been endeavouring to attract a keynote speaker to address a public meeting on these issues but so far without success. We continue our endeavours. In the meantime a discussion group of branch members has been meeting regularly to consider these issues and to draw up a policy discussion paper for consideration.

GATS AND TAXATION PAID BY FOREIGN COMPANIES

The General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS) is another looming issue affecting the

national interest. In the current round of negotiations an attempts will be made to free up access by foreign investors in trade in services such as health and education and to prevent discrimination in Australia, against foreign investors by comparison with Australia corporations and Governments. If such moves are successful, future Australian Governments will be further restricted in their ability to implement policies and programmes, beneficial to the domestic economy but seen as negative for foreign investors, What is to be done?

DEMOCRACY AT RISK

During 2001 Mr Charles Copeman addressed members and guests on the issue of electoral fraud. Clearly electoral fraud is real and unless the enrolment and voting procedures are changed it will expand and represent a significant threat to our democratic process, What is to be done?

WHAT IS TO BE DONE

CNI needs you to join one of three discussion groups to be formed to examine these issues, GATS, Taxation paid by foreign corporations and electoral fraud, so that policy papers might be developed as the basis for ongoing lobbying campaigns.

Volunteers please telephone Denis Whitely

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It is very significant that many major initiatives of CNI in Western Australia have emerged from

similar small discussion groups. Please rally to
the cause!