

24 April 2004

Australia's Demographic Challenges  
Social Policy Division  
The Treasury, Langton Crescent  
PARKES, ACT  
2600

Dear Federal Treasurer,

Re: N.T. News AD. - 24/4/04

After reading the above newspaper,  
I am encouraged to write this brief  
submission.

The newspaper stated, that due to the  
Ageing population of Australia,  
increased demand for services on health  
and Aged Care will occur.

This concern is not realistic but a  
mere prediction of what would happen.  
Nobody can tell what the future holds  
and why create worries about it?

Besides, older people are still capable  
of doing jobs. It is the mind that  
creates negatives and you are assisting

them to do it, instead of encouraging to think positive. Even a person is 100 years old, as long as that person continues to keep learning and doing things. At the same time, weakness of the body will disappear.

But if a person quits learning and doing things he or she loves most, it is this time the body starts to deteriorate.

Cross the bridge when you are there, for what is the point of planning how to go about it, if you are still far away from the bridge you create in your mind.

Also, don't underestimate older persons capabilities. They are still strong and healthy, able to do things that could contribute to the overall needs of society.

Instead of sizing them up as burdens and parasites, encourage the Senior Citizens to be strong, healthy, capable, lively, energetic, talented, independent, self-sufficient and supportive to all members in society.

Encourage, motivate and most of all, respect them, so they can continue doing the good works for the benefits of everyone.

The number of concerns mentioned in the newspaper lack the basis and meaningfulness. It created panic and problems for the future.

Elder people are not useless nor dependents. They know their worth and importance in society. And because of this self-esteem they acquire, there is no reason why politicians should worry about them.

By panicking on how to deal the created problems for the senior citizens, you are underestimating their capabilities as individuals, who help build the country ~~and~~ benefit the citizens.

It is each person's duty, to think ways and means to become productive, not only to herself or himself, but to the whole society in general.

By being a positive thinker and doer, there is no such thing as problems for future cost of elder citizens.

We members of the public composed the government. It is not the politicians nor public servants or bureaucrats, who comprised the government, but we the people.

And since we are the government, it is us who will decide what is best for everyone.

Just use Common Sense, Wisdom and Intelligence, to avoid sophistication of methods, which are costly and ineffective in obtaining the desired results.

Don't try solving problems which are only creation of the mind. Think positive to make the results effective, and avoid negative thoughts.

Worrying about the cost of older peoples need is useless. Present motivation to make senior citizens enthusiastic, of the feelings that they are still needed, to keep the economy of our country growing. Avoid treating the older people as useless and parasites, because they are not.

Thank you for reading this submission and hopefully, it helps enlighten your minds of the facts about older citizens. Make them feel productive till the end.

Sincerely,

Fulgencia  
Filomena Nichols  
Citizen