

**INQUIRY INTO HOMELESSNESS AMONGST OLDER
PEOPLE AGED OVER 55 IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

Dear members

According to the email received from Abigail Boyd, a Greens member, homelessness have reached CRISIS levels particularly with women. And gender pay gap is part of the blame. Mysogyny, or 'woman abuse' is still a problem because some men hold traditional beliefs that they are entitled to 'do tough jobs that women cannot do'. This is unreasonable and unfair. It leads to discrimination and limits the opportunities that women should have at the first place.

However, according to the Australian Unions, the number one cause of rising trend of homelessness is the rising cost of living coupled by the decrease in wages in respective to the rising costs. Workers are allowed to speak up if their wages are falling behind the rising costs of living. Employers are therefore responsible for dealing with this inflation with pay rises. This is a downward spiral that needs to be avoided.

The report from IWDA stressed that Covid 19 has increased the rate of Domestic Violence because of the lockdown and separation from friends and relatives. It is an emergency since a woman is killed on average, once a week around our country as of the 2020 census. Divorce and neglect make women more of a victim to homelessness and job insecurity.

Solutions will bring the following benefits. They include:

1. Narrowing and levelling the gender pay gap. Everyone deserves equal pay rights and responsibilities at work. This means doing a budget on how to average the pay within the certain population of working people as well as giving women equal work opportunities if they want to participate and contribute.
2. Use your investments for the housing community, not developer profits. This will reduce the cost of rent and buying properties and houses. This case is especially true for young people looking for long term full time jobs. Address the health of the economy by looking at the finance reports and income/expense records.
3. Address Domestic Violence very seriously. Do not underreport Domestic Violence as it can have a huge debt in our community that we have to pay for unfairly. Build DV treatment programs for people suffering from PTSD as a result of Domestic Violence as well as restrain orders for violent offenders.

I hope for your prompt response in this message and the improvement in homelessness conditions.

Yours sincerely.