

STOP POPULATION GROWTH NOW

Party of Australia

Are you one of the thousands of Australians who have lost all hope of owning their own home?

Are you one of a young couple who would dearly like to have their own house, and start a family?

Or perhaps you are an older man or woman who because of circumstances such as being out of the workforce for an extended period, or divorce, are faced with a lifetime of rental.

Well, you have no doubt asked yourself why is housing so unaffordable.

I got married in the late 60's. My wife and I were able to purchase land and build a house in a nice seaside suburb, even though we both earned modest salaries. Our mortgage was such that it was affordable on one salary when my wife gave up work in her early 20's to have our children. At that time the population of SA was about 1 million.

Compare that with the present. Young couples need to save for years to accumulate a deposit in an era when good secure jobs are hard to find, and they often have a large HECS debt (Note – my tertiary education in the 60's was effectively free). The end result is that they have to delay starting families until they are in their 30's, and they are burdened with huge mortgages.

Now there is no doubt that some of the problem can be traced to the activities of investors, who often own multiple properties. But by far and away the biggest problem is that house prices are driven up by the huge demands of population growth. Australia's population rose by 400,000 last year to 25 million. This comprised about 140,000 natural increase (excess of births over deaths) and migration of 260,000.

Now there is not much Government can do about natural increase. And population increase from that source will gradually reduce as the present higher than normal percentage of women of child bearing age becomes older. However, it would be relatively simple to reduce our migration to a few thousand per year (comprising those who had a special contribution to make to Australian society) and some particularly worthy refugees.

Reducing migration would put significant downward pressure on house prices, making it much easier for existing Australians to enter the market.

Note that neither Liberals, Labor, the Greens, or Centre Alliance favour cutting population growth. They have recently voted in the Senate against a plebiscite to ask Australians whether they favour cutting migration. They are not even prepared to let you have your say.

Please turn over

You can do something about this situation by joining our party. Basically our position is that Australia has enough people already, and that adding more people reduces our quality of life rather than improves it. The more people, the more competition for jobs, more upwards pressure on house prices, more traffic congestion, more pressure on our already fragile flora and fauna, more demand on water and electricity supplies, and longer waiting lists for hospitals. And we believe that requirements for skilled labour can be satisfied by training young (and older) Australians, rather than importing cheap labour from overseas, which has the added effect of depressing wages.

Further, Australia's total emissions would be going down, instead of up, if population growth was curbed, as emissions per capita are falling. But as the population is increasing, the benefits of that per capita reduction is being lost.

There are those who will claim that expanding our population is necessary to maintain our economic growth. According to the latest HILDA survey (Melbourne Institute), living standards have stagnated since the 2008 financial crisis, households have less median income to spend, and there's been an increase in relative poverty. During that period the population of Australia has increased by nearly 4 million. So how did that population growth help improve matters. It did not. It is just a lie circulated by certain business people who want more customers, by certain religious groups who believe it is evil to speak about limiting numbers of people, and by certain political parties who are too ignorant to recognise the our precious earth has limits.

How YOU can support us

Please become a member now (an application form can be printed from the website or obtained by emailing spgnparty@bigpond.com, writing (to Box 134 Brighton SA 5048) or phoning 0488 071 799). You will not be asked to attend meetings or be otherwise involved , although we would welcome your involvement if you chose to do so. **Note that Membership (Associate) is FREE.**

Please act now to ensure our children and grandchildren can enjoy the sort of future that we would want for them.



Robert (Bob) Couch
Convenor (For Management Committee)
Stop Population Growth Now Party

(Incorporated under the SA Associations Incorporation Act – Incorp No. A40519)

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Note - Stop Population Growth Now (SPGN) is run completely by volunteers. No fees for service or salaries are paid to members or Management Committee. SPCN is not racist and does not discriminate.