

Well I sit here after the election wondering why I'm bothering writing this to the enquiry now that I know with Mr John Anderson still holding his seat there is not much hope for the 80% of small pig farmers. The packages designed are only for the benefit of large business piggeries not the 80% of smaller piggeries. I believe Mr Anderson is a big business player not a small hardworking family supporter. I do thank Mr David Hawker for sending me a lot of literature about what has been happening with the pork industry. This is the only reason I found out about the inquiry. I suppose at least it gave a few people 140 days employment.

Enough Rubbish

My husband Russell and I have improved the quality of our producing herd. We have increased the size of production at considerable cost in Feb 97, to become more competitive. Our pork, bacon product was recently remarked to be the best in the market. If so why has the price gone from \$2.10 a kilo liveweight to .97c. It could not be imports because Mr Anderson stated "Pig Imports will not affect the Pig Industry." Please tell me how I am meant to pay of \$170,000 debt.

We have had to sell one farm, my husband start at 3.00am feeds pigs goes to work at Bonlax at 5.00am come home at 1.00 has a cuppa goes back to the piggery at 1.35. Finishes there 6.30-7.00pm.

I work part time from 9-3. And we have a 1½ and 2½ little girls. And honestly you ask why people commit suicide. Well Mr Anderson I have lost my husband my family and am working to keep you and your family. I may as well be on the dole. Because with you in power there is not "Australian Dream".

I am not eligible for your advisory grant because I made a loss last year of \$45,000. Tell me which small pig farmer didn't? And I have only been on the new property since Feb97, although being in pig production for almost 5 years.

To sell off the Pig Industry for the Danish Dairy export market and the Canadian Cattle export market is a cruel blow for the pig producers.

Honestly there is big money being made out there and I wonder who's pocket Mr Anderson has had his hand in.

Ramifications of the halt to imports are already happening with the US declining Sheep exports. Tit for Tat.

I believe World Trade is good and healthy for the industry if it is on a level playing field. Please be fair. There is no law saying Australia cannot put a tariff on pig imports. NO LAW WHAT SO EVER. The big Processors are benefiting out of imports as not once did I see the price of pork products decline in the supermarkets. If there is a big stock pile and not much selling reduce the price.

Don't let us end up like the wool stockpile please!

When you get rid of the 80% of small producers around I do not believe you will have better pork products. I am personally involved in my business and thats why I get good remarks.

So who is to blame! The diary industry? Or cattle? Mr Anderson?

Yours sincerely

Barbara Pineo

Attachment - letter from Rural Finance