

MIGRANT INTAKE INTO AUSTRALIA

The annual migrant intake into Australia appears to be causing:

- An underclass of foreign workers (cleaners, sweepers, trolley handlers etc.) – jobs which were previously held by young/old Australians
- Inability of Australian workers to find part or full time employment (older workers, teenage workers, unskilled workers)
- An inability for low paid workers to save enough for a deposit on a home
- A shortage of housing (due to immigrants and the families of immigrants in other countries buying up Australian real estate)
- Huge traffic congestion
- Cost of a university education out of reach for many and consequently more and more people reliant on the Government for dole payments

I do not believe we need any more migrants. Many countries, with a population less than that of Australia (Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark) provide for their own, have an excellent education system, adequate social security, innovative work practices, sufficient infrastructure and do not seek to enlarge their population.

A larger population means that our resources are constantly overstretched – we can barely keep up with building adequate hospitals, schools, railways, dams and there is never sufficient to maintain/upgrade the ageing original infrastructure. Roads are in a constant state of disrepair and public transport is not able to cope with demand.

You may argue that we need skilled workers. What is wrong with providing incentives for our young people to take up a trade so that we have competent carpenters, plumbers, electricians, mechanics – training them from year 10 and providing them with apprenticeships to enable them to start saving whilst still in their teenage years? If we had fewer immigrants, there would be more funding for educating our young people, particularly Aborigines so they could enjoy a better standard of living for the whole of their lives.

While multiculturalism has added a richness to our way of life, integration of some groups is not occurring. We should be preserving our Australian way of life, not diluting it more and more to suit others. They should be adapting to us, not us to them.

Australia is a country with climatic challenges – droughts, floods, bushfires. A larger population means more drain on our water, soil, agriculture. We are no longer producing for ourselves but allowing foreign interests to purchase our most sought-after crop producing areas and importing inferior products from overseas. Our produce is now so sought after in Asia, we should have our own abattoirs, not allow cattle to be shipped offshore (more jobs for Australians), produce our own fruit and pay our workers adequately. If the Australian brand is so 'in demand' other countries will pay for the quality of our milk, fruit, grain etc. All these areas are reservoirs for jobs for Australians. Instead of exporting our iron/steel, we should build smelters in Australia and 'value add' (more jobs for Australians).

Catering for an ever increasing population means that more and more Australian bushland, resources, beach areas, native flora and fauna is at risk in providing housing and resources, thereby encroaching on the very areas which are of interest to tourists. Certainly encourage tourists to come here but not with a view to having them live here. I'm sure most immigrant families would rather live in Australia than in their own country. We don't want or need them. Our standard of living is being constantly eroded as we try to give thousands of immigrants a better life than the one they presently have. Most Australians in the over 55 age group have worked long and hard to own a home, paid taxes and contributed to the community with barely a cent from the government. These are the very people who should be enjoying the largesse of the government, not immigrants who use all our resources, contribute little, do not assimilate and expect to be spoon fed at every turn.

Who is paying? We have only so many tax payers to fund all the social security/benefits/pensions that are required for around 270,000 extra people each year. Most of these newcomers do not have permanent jobs for years (if ever) so are not contributing their fair share and thereby reduce the amenity of Australians born here.

Australia's present population is approx. 24 million. Let's keep it right there. We don't need any more people to make it work, we just need to look after what we have and manage it better. Let's put all our resources into the education, care and maintenance of our own. Imagine the savings of not having to provide for 270,000 additional people each year. I'm sure this funding could be far better utilised in maintaining the standards of the present population.