

To: The Australian Religious Response to Climate Change; Ministers; Royal Commissioners; and others

From: Carol O'Donnell, St James Court, 10/11 Rosebank St., Glebe, Sydney
2037 www.Carolodonnell.com.au

Hi Multi-faith network and other faith leaders

I refer to your great call from a broad multi-faith network committed to addressing climate change which was published in the **Australian Financial Review** (13.10.22). The letter to the Prime Minister (PM), Anthony Albanese, put a range of clear and important policy and development propositions, which require whole of government attention, as well as closer consideration in particular regions in Australia and beyond. I was grateful to see the list of over forty on the multi-faith network. Please pass on this letter and the attached to signatories and others as they seek regional direction.

The open letter from First Nations and faith leaders to PM Albanese concluded that *the current level of warming is not safe and that this moment in history calls for an urgent, courageous, visionary response, especially for those in power, (sic.) as part of its First Nations Foreign Policy is vital for the vulnerable communities and eco-systems who depend on it.* I address inconvenient truths related to birth and death here and now. Disability of some kind or other occurs between birth and death for us all, for shorter or longer periods, in particular places or many. I want to find regional direction better by knowing what First Nations and faith leaders think about family planning and assisted dying, discussed later and attached. Both could save huge amounts of money and lead to more open regional development to benefit Australians and others better. This isn't 'Nazism lite'. It is the development of more democratic and informed management rather than patriarchal cultural expression designed mainly to subdue the voices of others. Challenge all producers as fascism is collaboration by the top producers who seek financial, military and related solutions to their problems as their normal ways of life.

According to the last Australian census, Christianity is the most common religion in Australia. However, almost 40 per cent of Australia's population reported having no religion in the 2021 Census, an increase from 30% in 2016. As an Australian atheist grandma from

atheist parents with atheist offspring, I hope the Australian Religious Response to Climate Change will put another set of key propositions to the broader multi-faith network, derived from common Marxist positions. These include from any calling for better death and family planning. I say, save the children first by having fewer and providing an assisted early death for those with good reason to want it.

I address 2022 federal budget matters later and relations with state responsibilities for land, construction and building management, including industrial relations. I note the Whitlam government agenda of the 1970s is still being constructed in regard to more logical health care, disability, estate and insurance services to Australians in any region. The Whitlam government first embarked upon its regionally expanded service planning and delivery, against growing opposition and costs from lawyers with state-based registration and interests, and their allied professions.

Later, I thought enterprise bargaining in universities was poorly constructed to serve anybody, for many reasons. For example, the work involved in repeat lectures was little, compared with the work for the first. The time taken for marking assessments encouraged tick-a-box examinations to free markers from unhappy students, as well as giving a lot more time for more research which pretends very dodgy numbers are science. The vital importance of giving good policy incentives is dealt with in this regional context later, pointing out that openness to inquiry is a key service attribute, because it ideally promotes mutual understanding and growth. Call a spade a spade with reason. You will see how far and fast you get, or not, as the case may be.

The government opposition has often claimed the delivery of nationally inclusive health care and disability pensions and services becomes too costly too quickly, as more and more professional and client claims are made upon government and other production. The 2022 budget and discussion show this appears increasingly to be the case. Rising costs have normally been resisted by US style privatization of health and disability concerns, with lawyers. This hides concerns, while running up professional costs to the particular case until the financially weaker one is bought off or collapses. This is not justice or research as much as living off the public purse at our expense.

Government and private sector operations may work better together if governed more often by mutual aims to deliver better services to the particular spot, rather than decision being confined to state professional boards, according to law or not.

This is addressed later in the light of daily newspaper and TV reports of the concerns expressed by apparent victims of apparently poor surgical or drug treatment.

The book **Hippocrasy**, is a scholarly study by Rachelle Buchbinder and Ian Harris (2021). Through long examination of the global evidence on the curative capacity of many practices, they conclude the current world-wide affordability crisis in medicine is caused partly by reducing costs through economic and production-based models of care (where more care is better but needs to be more efficient), ignoring the savings that could be made through reduction in unnecessary, wasteful and harmful medical care. They provide a lot of examples. In reality, death is an unavoidable fact of life. We are not all going to endlessly recover, as professions and clients may wish. The last two years of our lives may often appear as a costly hell for a huge number of us. I address you as I fear other secret professional advances more than the open voice or writing. In comparison with the more historically advanced medical model of evidence, however, the legal evidence practice is earlier, comparative feudal rubbish. Incentives are designed to control and win battles, not find any more likely truth.

I address regional problems of life and death in the light of the World Health Organization (WHO) and common concerns. See more at www.Carolodonnell.com.au

LET US STAND UP FOR OUR TRUE BELIEFS AT THE NEXT ELECTIONS IN THE LIGHT OF 2022 BUDGET DIRECTION (I ADDRESS THE LIFE COURSE AND VOICE)

I AM YOUR GLOBALLY STEREOTYPIC ATHEIST GRANDMA WHO CLAIMS AUSTRALIANS SHOULD PUBLICLY SUPPORT BETTER DEATH AND FAMILY PLANNING. (THERE ARE A LOT OF US AND WE ARE OFTEN FAIRLY RICH.)

PLEASE PASS THIS AND ATTACHMENTS ON TO YOUR CONSTITUENTS FOR QUESTIONING AND REASONED PUBLIC EDUCATION. (FAIRER HAS FAILED).

We can't go on together with ambitious minds. Please tell Nixon Apple and bring him here from Melbourne where they apparently think they can make industrial rules for the country. I will ask Nixon what on earth is supposed to be happening in industrial relations as I haven't had a clue for years. He hasn't responded to any of my invitations to meet that

were left with his friends since he was my defacto for ten years in Sydney. Please bring him to me. Only God knows about industrial relations? The rest of us will need a personal lawyer as the guys like everything professionally stitched up for them. If it isn't, they will reinvent it so it is. Please get Nixon to meet me by Xmas. Try prayer or Linked-In or other means you favour. Directions along the Illawarra Coast and Wollongong are addressed later in the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran suicide file attached. What do you or others of your ilk think in film or writing? May many people be served better by opening platforms together?

THE 2022 BUDGET CLARIFIES THE AUSTRALIAN CHALLENGES GLOBALLY

I applaud the Treasurer, Jim Chalmer's 2022 budget in providing a clear global account of Australian population problems, with particular emphasis on the need for review and revision of Medicare, aged care, National Disability services, Defence and insurance or other fund management and spending. The patriarchal mind may value silent and secret lore alone or act in highly valued brotherhood operations, to wreak the ultimate violence on offending others or their family of dependants. This springs from feudal and tribal cultures which are male dominated and often violent to women who are not good workers for them, in producing good boys or marriageable girls, for example. Economic development of a welfare state has a less than ideal past for all. It is here now and should not be thrown away with more and more lawyers as usual. To communicate as honestly as possible with any apparent enemy is a development start as important as being polite. I guess guys don't think so, and girls are not sure.

I address the court case of Sydney University lecturer, Tim Anderson, as an example of the limits of free speech and approaches to topics which seek to contain speech and writing. According to the Sydney Morning Herald article **Lecturer sacked unlawfully: court**, the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) is calling for Sydney University to reinstate controversial lecturer, Tim Anderson, after a court found him unlawfully sacked over comments about Israel and other matters – including superimposing the Nazi swastika on the Israeli flag in a lecture slide. A federal court judge ruled Anderson was exercising his intellectual freedom and accepted the lecturer's argument that he created the swastika graphic for academic purposes to encourage critical analysis and point out comparisons between 'fascist systems'. Nobody in the class complained at the time, according to the article. (SMH 29-30.10.22). This absence of objection may be polite, but it wasn't educational for anybody who might have been involved.

The beauty of the university environment is often that it is a protected space for comparatively free, open and honest development and debate that may not easily exist in commercial or government operations. As a woman I have always loved the institution for the financial and intellectual freedom it normally gives for positive self and other development. However, complaints of the kind made against Anderson are now popular with many. They promote more secretive, adversarial and irrelevant complaints which not only hinder development but soak up money for it. To me this spirit appears the antithesis of promoting open and honest debate about motives for mutual development. I would like to see more of the Anderson mystery unveiled.

Since the Hilton Hotel bombing in 1978, when there was a regional Commonwealth heads of state (CHOGRM) gathering, I have followed Anderson's fortunes from afar with interest but no reason to know about or support his views. In the 1990s and beyond, however, we were both employed as lecturers by Sydney University, teaching separate political economy style development subjects, in different faculties. I became aware of his writings about police and court procedures, which he and others experienced first-hand, after the Hilton Hotel bombing, when he was an Ananda Marga member and spokesperson. In the 1990s I found his written work truly obnoxious and was amazed that it has always had so many influential backers in university, government and related legal circles. Read Anderson's book on the Hilton bombing and its aftermath. Compare it with books by Rachel Landers, or Imre Salusinszky, for example. As an academic, I wanted to speak to Anderson about his view of justice and courts in regional development, for mutual interest and advance. All he ever did was to avoid my phone calls, my emails, and my turning up in person to try to get a time to see him. Was it because I'm a woman? I've no idea.

For me, the frightening and damning thing about Anderson, is his anti-intellectual, and thus expensively adversarial view of life, where he allows himself and encourages others, apparently, to remain silent to protect and advance his own positions. I guessed he must come from some influential Canberra stock, but have no knowledge about his family connexions even though he dedicated his book on the Hilton bombing and his subsequent incarcerations to his mother and father. Perhaps Google might tell us all more next time, perhaps not.

From the perspective of any stable international and regional state order, however, any army or other elite recruitment appears best when taught to assist in prevention and reconstruction after natural or other disasters, not punishing or killing suspected enemies with environmental consequences which may or may not be unintended. Rebuilding more

openly and consultatively around public transport hubs with parks, entertainment and sports are better. Surely we don't need more giant galleries, stadiums, casinos and hotels for secret pleasure or display. Their construction appears driven by the most powerful state financial, political and industrial forces, not better project planning and management suited to diverse places across total population regions.

Consider housing problems in the army and for veterans closely in their related regional contexts, as it appears important for the forces to open up and lead, to improve their own service cultures and ours. These institutions are also hosts to many trade and technical occupation or science, technology and mathematics (STEM) practitioners who appear vital for achieving all development. See related questioning in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) vocational subjects attached and an address to the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide on my website for example. Please consider these moral positions whether they are legal or not. Moral reason trumps law in my view.

Birth and death may be seen as opportunities for improvement through serving better to those below top family circles. Army careerism often seems the most dangerous kind of many, and veterans, like royalty, may be the sacred and protected cows normally presented to many. I address the historic effects of legal careerism and its patriarchal culture regarding rape and reputation later. The best thing Jim Chalmers budget did is to show how we are all in this together, as producers and consumers who must manage our means of living better. As aboriginal and faith-based leaders concerned about climate change, your views about family planning, death and related matters of land and estate should be heard. Try a written opinion. We were all meant to judge, including ourselves, whatever the young may say now.

The Treasurer is keen to see the Reserve Bank of Australia fighting inflation hard as the key priority in containing the new normal costs of production and consumption. Health and disability care costs seem driven by hugely increased awareness of the particular body in general; by more defensive medical practice against the unintended consequences of treatment; research; or any related waste and corruption, systemic or not, for example. A person's general health and disability treatment record should be readable from the cradle to the grave, to improve knowledge and reduce poor and unnecessary treatments generally. Education for land and building construction and management, including for agricultural, mining and manufacturing production is ideally carried out in related regional contexts of state and other service. The aim is to assist the health and welfare of people in life, with death as an end, with good estate management. I've never seen it done before

2022, as distinct from in budget perusal which addresses line items, while fighting endlessly over supposed amounts. On the particular ground these may have to be elastic for good reason, or not. This should be able to be honestly documented without fear in the public interest. 2022 budget comment shows us all as regional parts of global concerns now. It's a start.

Please join in this regional process by spreading the word or providing a reasoned critique of key propositions here, attached and at www.Carolodonnell.com.au

Do you recognise and support a need for greater access to education and provision of contraception and abortion services, as well as child care and education services where they appear to be needed most, according to Australian Bureau of Statistics data?

Would you like to see assisted death and dying services for the widest possible groups and individuals? You bet I would. What about key immunizations with all services delivered better together. Will your services fit in? What do your constituents think?

I put related service improvement and cost cutting views to anybody, but particularly here to PM Albanese, the Treasurer and to your signatories, as well as to local Sydney MPs Linda Burney and Tanya Plibersek, Minister for Environment and Water.

In the 2022 budget funds awarded to support the development of the aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to parliament, is an amount to encourage an increase in the number of indigenous Australians enrolled to vote, according to the article **Voice campaign gets \$75m to prepare for referendum** (SMH 26.10.22). That seems to be a good statistical start as Australia adopted compulsory voting around 1901, (except for aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people). This was to alert us all to our duties of care to country (to use more modern language). Can you duck key birth and death questions raised while being multi-faith leaders against climate change? Should you?

THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

I recently attended Sydney University to hear Linda Burney give the Evatt Lecture on the Uluru Statement from the Heart and the Voice. The Evatt lecture is in memory of the Australian who helped set up the United Nations after the horrors of the Second World War. **The Uluru Statement is an invitation from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to “walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future”.** It calls for structural reforms including constitutional change to establish a Voice to Parliament enshrined in the Constitution.

Linda Burney went through the clear consultative process required to that end. However, Lisa Visentin writes in **Voice campaign gets \$75m to prepare for referendum**, that other aboriginal leaders resisted the idea of a referendum to include indigenous people in the Constitution. They say the **Voice** will make no practical difference to the everyday lives of indigenous Australians and embedding the body in the Constitution is racially divisive. I think money could be better spent in family planning and related education. For example, the Australian male wage was originally established around 1901 on the expectation that a man would support a wife and two to three children in frugal comfort, while the children went to school and then entered paid work. The national development of health care, disability pensions and superannuation funds mainly arose in the 1980s, along with the introduction of the Medicare system. The development of nationally inclusive approaches to education, health care, aged and disability care, also start, however, in construction and building management matters. These are state government planning, management and industrial matters. Construction of reasonable housing projects which won't rapidly increase housing and global warming costs in future is very politically hard because it goes against the interest of key professional and political groups which have themselves designed the state to meet their own group interests before others.

Birth, disability and death services now require global consideration, to meet individual and population needs in future. This may contain service costs and avoid poor and unintended consequences of treatment better in future. Unless the powerful political forces in land and construction subject themselves to open address in the service of their environments, I guess life is business as usual with more rural kids destined for lives of comparative poverty, violence and early death than ever before. I address multi-faith networks in this global context where, as Uncle Jack Charles pointed out so well before he died, voting is often wrongly preferred to better evidence gathering. What do you and those you speak to think is better action? I am sick of legal representatives and others not seeing inconvenient problems or voicing solutions in regional environments, through common law.

As a Marxist grandma with Australian characteristics, I call for better death and birth rights here and now. Explanation is attached. As with all our mortal efforts, these are part of historic attempts to join our interests in the land from many quarters. I urge First Nations

and faith leaders to begin their related consultations. As I felt morally forced to shout out at the end of all the Evatt addresses. *'This is a university. Are there no questions allowed'?* (On a scale of 1-10, how rude was that? Do you give up?)

As an Australian atheist grandma of British heritage, I comment on birth and death first as the facts account for all of us and are key global pillars of environment health. What do First Nations, faith leaders and other people want in this regard? I assume all people may become community leaders by speaking up about their own solutions to their own problems. I therefore first address you in relation to the article ***Rise in teenage motherhood in regional towns bucks trends'*** in the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH 10.10.22, p.4) later. It notes a rise in teenage pregnancies in the bush when they are generally dropping elsewhere, and addresses reasons for the call from Family Planning Services NSW for better reproductive sexual health services, including for contraception and abortion. The lack of such services in many non-metropolitan and remote communities puts the health of many mothers and others increasingly at risk.

Children will generally do better in society when there are fewer of them competing for its resources. Richer women who wanted paid work grasped that fact early for themselves. Australian policy incentives should be for good family planning. As a grandmother, this has seemed obvious to me for years. What do younger ones think?

In my youth, I taught with Australian Volunteers Abroad in Kano, Northern Nigeria at the end of the Biafran War, in the early 1970s. Comparing the fortunes of Nigeria and China then and since has increasingly impressed on me how much the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) did for women by reducing the enslavement of the total society to their reproductive functions, particularly in rural areas. **I think Australian and other First Nations and faith leaders should put forward their views and public support for family planning services and functions, especially in rural areas.** Related positions are put in attachments on assisted dying, which I also demand for myself. (See more on my background and views at www.Carolodonnell.com.au) **How much support would you offer for such views on facts about family planning and death?**

According to a recent ABC TV **4 Corners** program, aboriginal women are murdered and go missing at twelve times the national average. The program focused on the inadequacy of police procedures and on a mother of ten who was recently murdered in Brisbane. The article ***Rise in teenage motherhood in regional towns bucks trends*** (SMH 10.10.22, p.4) uses Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data to point out the national teenage birth rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders is now more than five times the rate of the

general population. Teenagers in non-metropolitan areas were almost three times as likely as their metropolitan counterparts to give birth before they turned twenty. Higher rates of teenage-pregnancy are linked to socio-economic disadvantage, unstable housing, social welfare dependency and teenage motherhood, all of which are over-represented in regional and remote areas. Government spending aimed at 'closing the gap' in welfare between First Nations people and the rest have not worked enough to stop their problems becoming worse.

I try to write to First Nations and faith leaders from the view of a Marxist grandma, seeing them as supposed service providers to those communities they particularly value. Please consider these atheist propositions, to clarify your own on these life and death matters in regard to climate change and development policy. We need to understand more about what we honestly think and may change our minds later on finding out more. Surely you should write your honest views on this.

The situation of drunk males raping drunk females must be reasonably common, but largely occurs beyond the public eye of newspapers, TV or related media, I guess. Because of this, I address the public allegations of rape made by Brittany Higgins against Bruce Lehmann, and his denial and suit against her for defamation. It is notable, in the absence of any camera or physiological evidence of rape to support the allegations made by Higgins, that she alone, of the two alone, must answer to the court for her behaviour. Her case is clearly unprovable from the start. But this is not even a case of her word against his, as he is close to invisible throughout proceedings. Like any man accused, whether he denies the accusation or not, Lehmann is legally encouraged to remain silent throughout the trial. Logically, however, that failure to convict does not make Bruce Lehmann not guilty. Trial news is good public education about the partial, wrong, stupid and expensive nature of traditional white male views on law and justice, including juries. What do First Nations and faith leaders think about it? Open and honest accountability are not for the career or job oriented?

Government should not keep providing incentives for increasing disorder while calling the method 'closing the gap'. Gap closure between rural and urban quality of life and incentives depends partly on rural reproduction approaching universal middle class norms.

I hope you will take these matters into consideration in your involvement with those of similar or other beliefs, to increase understanding and the chances of cooperation.

Cheers

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To the Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment, Ministers and others

**SUBMISSION ON FAIR WORK LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SECURE JOBS, BETTER PAY) BILL
2022, FOLLOWING THE TREASURER'S BUDGET FROM THE JOBS AND EDUCATION SUMMIT**

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**SUMMARY: THE SECURE JOBS BETTER PAY BILL SEEMS LIKELY TO INCREASE INEQUALITY,
NOT REDUCE IT. NOBODY WILL UNDERSTAND ITS REQUIREMENTS SO WILL RESORT TO
LAWYERS AND THEIR PAST ARCANE DRIVEL, WHILE USING POWER FREELY TO DO WHAT
THEY WANT IF THEY CAN.**

Having been alerted to the Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment
Inquiry by the press report of last weekend, after the first reading of the **Secure Jobs Better
Pay Bill (2022)** last Friday, (4.11.22), I make the following observations on the Bill.

The **Secure Jobs Better Pay Bill** is supposed to be inserted into the **Fair Work Act**, with the
aim of **increasing job security and pay**. I fear that without clearer explanation of the aim of
the **Fair Work Act**, designed in the public interest, as well as the industrial one, the **Secure
Jobs Better Pay Bill (2022)** will be increasingly designed by trade unions and ambitious
Labor politicians in the image of past industrial battles. Then only lawyers are privileged
with key information in law. This is whether it appears to be drivel, or whether lawyers
make its meaning up as they go along, to suit their own interests and those of their most
powerful clients, or not. Their practice has nothing to do with any common search for
truth, justice or compassion and they are kidding themselves totally about their importance
to the particular place. If lawyers didn't exist, we would be better off without them.

This Bill may or may not meet the intended outcome of the **aim** supposedly sought in
the **Secure Jobs Better Pay Bill (2022)**, **of increasing security and raising wages**. Whether
the key procedures increase job insecurity while adding to the pressures produced by the
already well paid and relatively secure, will depend on who pursues it and how. However,

the pursuit may also cause higher prices and greater inflation at a time when education, mortgages, rent, communication, petrol, power, maintenance and related IT and other costs are increasingly heavy, especially for those poorer than the norm.

An inclusively serving government should not take past incomprehensible orders about industrial bargaining further because it only encourages expensive lawyers and mates. When the Bill is split up and inserted into the **Fair Work Act**, its original intent may also be impossible to determine. However, **the abolition of the Registered Organisations Commission, which is contained in the Bill**, seems as shocking to me as the abolition of the **Building and Construction Commission**. The prohibition on pay secrecy is also surprising. This is war in the streets?

I address Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations and Leader of the House, Tony Burke, treasurers, and others in this context later, with reference to the professional interests and strategic plans of the tertiary education sector, and my experience of the construction industry on this Glebe strata property in 2008. I am surprised to agree with Andrew Downer, in his article in the Australian Financial Review entitled **America's toxic hate and anger is a bipartisan problem** (AFR 7.11.22, p39). Downer agrees with aims to reduce inflation, and to deal with violence and immigration now. I do too.

CAN WE KNOW MORE ABOUT THE MANAGEMENT OF THE SKILLING AUSTRALIA FUND?

In this context, I attach a discussion on the **Skilling Australia Fund** and its apparent design in regard to its aims which are: **To ensure businesses that benefit from employing migrants are also skilling Australians**. This community fund collection to benefit all Australians, superficially has the broader community aim and reach one expects from well-designed legislation which attempts to serve the public interest, rather than the litigious one as usual.

I learned about the **Skilling Australia Fund** to support jobs and skills development through reading the article **One visa, one training place is a clever fix for worker shortages**, in the Australian Financial Review (AFR, 1.8.22, p.39). National Secretary of the Australian Workers Union (AWU), Daniel Walton, proposed a plan for fixing the **'gaping hole'** in Australia's skilled workforce that is now **'impossible to ignore'**. Gaping and impossible for whom, according to whom, one wonders. The national industrial relations system was established in 1901 to protect employers and working men whose interests were normally deemed to be opposed in state parliaments served by their associations. Men were supposed to have dependent wives and children, shielded from any outside competition,

unless they worked in other areas with wages as a fixed percentage of the male wage. In this way, discrimination was baked into systems of male and child protection, which are challenged to better Australia and the related regions by becoming more usefully inclusive. **This requires planning according to employers' aims, so one wonders how it is going.**

Walton suggests the plan to fix *'the gaping hole in Australia's workforce'* should be funded in part by the existing **Skilling Australia Fund**. It seems logical to do this, also splitting the **Secure Jobs Better Pay Bill** more consistently. The Minister, has apparently stated about the **Secure Jobs Better Pay Bill**:

My department and I have consulted closely with businesses and unions on these reforms.

Since the costs of business and trade union treatment are normally borne by voters, it is a pity that the opportunity to make submissions to the Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment about the Fair Work Legislation Amendment (**Secure Jobs Better Pay**) Bill 2022 was not widely known about until last week, and the date for final submissions to this inquiry is 11.11.22. The Bill requires greater understanding from debate more than it needs passing. A law that nobody except lawyers and the cognoscenti can see, let alone understand, seems likely to be very costly to produce, but of little use to Australian industry, and to its related families of consumers, especially the low-income ones. On the other hand, increasing inequality in the population could easily arise depending on the existing relations of bargaining capacity and strength, which are often dominated by old or younger men.

MINISTERIAL CONSULTATION ON THE SECURE JOBS BETTER PAY BILL AND ABOLITION OF THE REGISTERED ORGANISATION COMMISSION (ROC)

The Minister carried on as follows and I address his consultation point 5 in particular:

'As a result of ongoing consultation, further government amendments may be made to this bill. Discussions are well advanced with stakeholders as to how we clarify certain issues, including how to best ensure that:

(1) businesses and workers who already successfully negotiate single-enterprise agreements can continue to do so; (Who has done this and who can find out? How?)

(2) voting processes in relation to multi-employer agreements are fair, democratic and workable and occur at the enterprise level; (Is this to be judged by voting or other means?)

(3) agreements cannot be put to a vote of employees without the agreement of employee organisations who are bargaining representatives; (Everybody must employ lawyers?)

(4) a reasonable period of good-faith bargaining occurs before either party can resort to arbitration; (Only God and lawyers know what this will mean?)

(5) businesses competing on quality, on innovation and on product and service offerings, rather than wages and conditions, are able to continue to do so; and, finally, that multi-employer bargaining is not extended to industries in which it is neither appropriate nor necessary—in particular, commercial construction. (???) I don't understand this. You think I need a lawyer?)

Surely all businesses must concern themselves about the quality of their product and service offerings to the customers or public which ultimately pays for them, as well as other wages and conditions? The Gods of competition and innovation are as capable of stuffing up more productive, democratic and smooth operations, as the reverse, and regularly do so. Australia's pivot to managed competition to achieve the key goals of reduced global warming are addressed attached. In the international environments where both Chinese and the US are our key trading partners, as well as many others not of our culture, law and faith, one turns to former PM Kevin Rudd's recent book, '**The Avoidable War**' for leadership, although he calls himself a Christian.

The mission of the Australian Technology Council is addressed in related terms attached and later. It is guided by work on skills and land planning produced by Richard Florida, which is also addressed later and attached.

Many businesses do not compete with others as much as they exist in longer monopoly relations of cooperation or control with others. I am often made aware, for example, that had Microsoft Office been allowed to continue on its way, which the US court judged uncompetitive, we would be communicating more broadly, effectively and cheaply across the world, with a lot more good Microsoft products. I also reminded, for example, that if British and US car-makers had not divided up the world so half its population drive on the 'wrong' side of the road, transport would be safer and cheaper.

If '**professional services**' (law, accounting and other financial and IT practices in particular (?)) are deemed to be an industry now, they have done very well, especially since the Covid pandemic and related changes to protect human health and development began in 2020. Legal, accounting and other professional associations and concerns, however, are not subject to the vagaries of voters on a regular basis as politicians and parties are. They may

go on with their self-interested development of the national polity unhindered forever and with lawyers, so they naturally do. This doesn't make stupid legal language and adversarial methods any better for the rest of us. Put the bill and its aims and key operations in short pamphlets suitable for putting on a relevant website, because Jill is better than a lawyer.

My first reading of the **Secure Jobs Better Pay** bill was this week, after I had written my first and comparatively ignorant submission to elected members and others on the matter of the **Secure Jobs Better Pay** bill. This was based on TV and press reports of enterprise bargaining, and appears again later. It is critical of National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) enterprise bargaining as I experienced it. The NTEU respected the expectations of professional closures as tools of career advances, rather than serving the interests of the Sydney University Strategic Plan to serve many wider communities better.

On having it available this week, I find the **Secure Jobs Better Pay** Bill's most startling and yet unremarked aspect so far, appears to be the **Abolition of the Registered Organizations Commission** and the **prohibition on pay secrecy**. (This is big? What are we in for next?)

According to the relevant website, a *'registered organisation' is an association of employers or employees that has been formally registered by the Fair Work Commission under the Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009 (the RO Act). The Registered Organisations Commission (ROC) is the independent regulator of registered organisations. Following registration, an organisation is able to represent its members in the national workplace relations system. For example, it can:*

- *represent its members before the Fair Work Commission;*
- *hold free elections of officers conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission;*
- *sue or be sued in its registered name.*

Surely the above abolition would make the abolition of the Building and Construction Commission look like comparatively small beer? (Nobody knows what daddy has been doing, especially daddy?)

The ACTU addresses callers inquiring into wage rates, but only a telephone number appears on its website. Surely there should be better information about the aims and key rates of pay expectations of the **Fair Work Act** than occurs at present. The ACTU states the following:

What does 'Fair Work' mean? The term comes from the Fair Work Act 2009, which is the law for Australia's workplace relations system. Key features of the Fair Work Act include minimum standards and wages, unfair protection laws and agencies like the Fair Work

Ombudsman and Fair Work Commission. Chances are you need a bit of help navigating Australia's Fair Work system. After all, our awards framework is one of the most complicated wages systems in the world. While most countries have just one minimum wage, Australia has hundreds. As a business owner or manager, you need to be 100% sure you're paying your staff the right amount. It's too easy to get wages wrong. Don't risk trusting the wrong advice.

The above advice seems to me to be that anybody engaging in collective bargaining needs to employ a lawyer on their side. Plain language, designed in the public interest in clear information about pay rates and expectations appears better. I would rather poke pins in my eyes than put my affairs in the hands of a lawyer so I could watch how fast or slowly he or she runs with them, while running up costs to me. I would back my own knowledge and expression of my own affairs against that of a lawyer any day of the week and I bet your auntie who writes could do a much better and cheaper job for you.

In short, this Bill appears to create a huge new lawyers' picnic because the requirements under law appear to be rendered nobody's business but that of particular privileged lawyers, spouting outdated and incomprehensible or stupid legal drivel, to assist their more litigious clients in courts. This isn't a recipe for more secure and better paid jobs unless communities are guided by more commonly reasoned understanding of the place of managed regional competition in improving services. This understanding, addressed attached, was advanced by Kevin Rudd's government, then lost when narrower industrial interests in the Labor party voted against his leadership to advance their own political interests better. I fear that this may be their time and that Australians will now see costs and inequality advance while the general productivity slows further. Should we care less? (I am more worried about failing teeth and am marked to die quite soon, with Covid or not.)

ENTERPRISE BARGAINING IN JOINT INSTITUTIONAL AIMS AND OUTCOMES IDEALLY APPEAR SOUGHT THROUGH WIDER ACCESS TO BETTER AND CHEAPER EDUCATION

Tony Burke is also the Minister for Arts as well as for Employment and Workplace Relations. To me he is just the usual lawyer pretending to be Catholic, that we are increasingly stuffed with. (See discussion on NSW and life and death rights attached.)

In the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH 26.8.22 p. 20), the article **Arts experts to oversee cultural direction**, refers to Burke's attempt to develop a strategy '*for the way cultural practices fit into the economy and society*'. He pointed out '*this is not an arts policy, it's a cultural policy, a whole of government policy*'. Apparently, this means *portfolios such as health, foreign affairs and education might contribute and benefit from it*. **How exactly?**

I was never a fan of the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) enterprise bargaining approach in the 1990s and later, as earlier submissions below point out again. I thought NTEU enterprise bargaining stifled broader vocational development that would be better for more students and communities, as well as being much cheaper to deliver and receive. It seemed to ignore any strategic plan the universities have, individually or in collaborations with others. In my own work at Sydney University, I had tried to follow the example of the WHO and the Open University which began in Britain, originally in cooperation with TV and radio communication. See the style of operation I sought unsuccessfully for myself and others to achieve greater mutual harmony in serving people on www.Carolodonnell.com.au

In the cultural sphere, as in any other today, however, there is an increasing tendency to flick all matters to lawyers to avoid any more contentious work or decision, especially in writing. Opening matters up better for inspection and greater public education are preferred for normal educational and democratic approaches to greater flourishing. **Gardening Australia** and **Landline** are good ABC TV free to air examples. Law and its practice have never been constructed as good services to people unless their primary intention has apparently been to hide the seeming or apparent truth as long as possible.

YOU'RE THE VOICE? (WHEN HISTORICAL WRITING IS THE ONLY WAY)

The open letter from First Nations and faith leaders to PM Albanese (AFR 13.10.22) is addressed below. The writers concluded *the current level of warming is not safe and that this moment in history calls for an urgent, courageous, visionary response, especially for those in power, (sic.) as part of its First Nations Foreign Policy is vital for the vulnerable communities and eco-systems, who depend on it.* As an atheist grandma, one addresses common life and death matters to them later, conscious of their financial and quality of life implications for everybody in the shared environment of choice.

In my view, the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) pursued collegiate career minded closures or related professional alliances wrongly in pursuit of their normal claims. Plain, sensible language appears increasingly necessary for treating national or other regional and historic matters such as this. The aim is to further improve the wellbeing of all those living in Australia and for future generations.

I consider cultural, financial and environment matters attached, in the light of many of the views of John Kay, visiting professor at the London School of Economics, and fellow of St John's College, Oxford. In ***Other People's Money: Masters of the Universe or Servants of the People?*** (2015), Kay primarily addresses the global rise of the financial trading culture since the 1980s which has enhanced the bias to finance generating action that reduces ethical standards and increases the costs of financial intermediation as well as the costs of general population and financial instability. His views make a lot of sense in my opinion.

As addressed in the attached submissions and at www.Carolodonnell.com.au, a lot of technology now appears best dealt with according to the requirements of its surrounding contexts. Richard Florida does this, for example, in his book **The Rise of the Creative**

Class. He sees three Ts as necessary for the creative society – technology, talent, and tolerance and considers the following work as defining the core of the class:

Computer and mathematical occupations; Architecture and engineering occupations; Life, physical and social science occupations; Education, training and library occupations; Arts, design, entertainment, sports and media occupations

The Technology Council of Australia, however, cannot differentiate between technology which does or assists a specified job well, and technology which appears primarily connected and controlling our lot from elsewhere, supposedly to make money for oneself through unknown others. This often seems more like selling technology than service and it appears to keep the gaming house winning. These problems are addressed attached.

A MARXIST GRANDMA LEARNS OF HENRY GEORGE: HIS VIEW MUST SURELY BE KNOWN TO ASSIST BETTER REGULATION AND REGIONAL OUTCOMES ON ANY LAND (I HAVE NO IDEA.)

As a 75 years old self-funded retiree without mortgage or other debts, I have been a strong supporter of the trade union movement and served in many trade union capacities as well as in state government employment and as a university teacher. However, in the 1990s and beyond I began to turn strongly against the adversarial workplace methods which it seemed had long been there or had returned after a brief spell under the Hawke Labor and early Keating government environments. This personal revision was partly as a result of the changing work, accommodation and investment environments that led to the global financial crisis in 2008. This was then driven by US policies related to tax and housing developments, according to my growing but limited understanding, attached for example.

As a retired but lifelong Marxist student and teacher, with historical knowledge of Keynes and some other economic and political teaching, I only recently received an introduction to the ideas on land of Henry George, whom I have never read. However, I guess we all should do so if we can. In **Progress and Poverty** (1879) George apparently wrote that *'the progress of invention constantly tends to give a larger proportion of the produce of the owners of land and a smaller and smaller proportion to labour and capital'*. Richard Florida notes that instead of driving more innovation and growth the bounty of today's knowledge is instead diverted into rising land costs, real estate prices and housing values. Related housing and environment matters are addressed attached and at www.Carolodonnell.com.au

The Illawarra Coast of NSW may be particularly now addressed, in relation to the particular plans of West Australian billionaire, Andrew Forrest and his Fortescue Future industries discussions in regard to the NSW blue or green carbon strategies, for example. In theory, private landowners and entrepreneurs can gain carbon credits by investment in protecting or rehabilitating coastal areas which act as carbon sinks. Seaweed forests, salt marshes, wetlands and other coastal areas could be tapped for carbon credits, NSW Environment Minister, James Griffin, told the AFR. Is this working to achieve any goals which are environmental rather than financial? How? Does anyone know or care to explain? I also

read Forrest is addressing green carbon technology with German interests. We need good universities and related investments if any goals related to global warming and more sustainable development are to be achieved. I fail to see how enterprise bargaining normally helps.

Gratefully I turn, therefore to Wikipedia and Google below. I look forward to reading **Progress and Poverty**, which The Mises Institute has kindly put free online although I would prefer buying it locally in hard copy if possible. You might find Henry George as revealing on matters today as I did. According to Wikipedia, Henry George believed people should own the value they produce themselves, but the economic value of [land](#) (including [natural resources](#)) should belong equally to all members of society. His most famous work, *Progress and Poverty* (1879), sold millions of copies worldwide. George considered it a great injustice that private profit was being earned from restricting access to natural resources while productive activity was burdened with heavy taxes, and indicated that such a system was equivalent to [slavery](#) – a concept somewhat similar to [wage slavery](#). *Progress and Poverty* is also the work in which George made the case for a [land value tax](#) in which governments would tax the value of the land itself, thus preventing private interests from profiting upon its mere possession, but allowing the value of all improvements made to that land to remain with investors. Among other illustrious students, the contemporary US Nobel Prize winning economist, Joseph Stiglitz, who is popular in influential Australian government and related community circles today, often supports the views of Henry George. (I've no idea but it seems to me George deserves scrutiny to assist regional planning.)

Cheers and see more from me below and attached. See more at www.Carolodonnell.com.au as I remain, in ignorance, a Marxist grandma.

ENTERPRISE BARGAINING AND COLLEGIATE RELATIONS IN UNIVERSITIES TO SUPPORT REGIONAL STRATEGIC SERVICE PLANS MORE BROADLY AND CHEAPLY

It wouldn't be make-believe if you believed in me.

**Carol O'Donnell, St James Court, 10/11 Rosebank St., Glebe,
Sydney www.Carolodonnell.com.au**

I refer to the speech made at the National Press Club (1.11.22, p. 2022) by MP and opposition party treasurer, Angus Taylor, about the situation expected in enterprise bargaining as a result of the coming passage of the **Secure Jobs Better Pay legislation**.

Like Angus Taylor, many Australians may worry and wonder about the moral, health and economic consequences of passing or implementing legislation they don't understand. As a retired teacher and public servant, as well as a grandma, householder and investor, I do too.

I suggest a quick one-page pamphlet stating the aims of the Secure Jobs Better Pay legislation so that it can be clearly understood and implemented by anybody. Let it stand alone as new law for the country in future. (Then all earlier and other environment law can remain in use as evidentiary back-up related to any apparently suitable position at the place.)

The opposition treasurer wanted to see an industrial relations plan. I was little the wiser after Tony Burke, Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations in the new Labor government spoke on ABC TV that night, wanting to get higher wages for as many people as possible before Christmas, by legislative enactment of more enterprise bargaining, I guess. He said those with an enterprise plan already, need not engage further. Who has one now?

As a former employee of the university sector who experienced enterprise bargaining for eleven years up until I left teaching in 2007, I was a member, but not a fan of the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU). At that time any University of Sydney Strategic Plan seemed to mean nothing compared to NTEU deliberations for more job security and pay.

For over a decade before 1995, I was a manager of plain English productions and a policy advisor in NSW government, to support the aims of the new state occupational health and safety acts and related rehabilitation and insurance legislation and procedures. This was in the Department of Industrial Relations and Employment and then the WorkCover Authority.

All new attempts, however, get taken over by lawyers very quickly and revert to the satisfaction of top professional interests in court. This is the main thing I learned in that state environment, trying to increase our broader understanding, to promote more stable business operations, in more broadly protected environments. At that time, direction was also guided by World Health Organization (WHO) and related professional and international standards which Australian states endorse or not, depending on their state cases and commitments.

I also refer to the article in the Sydney Morning Herald (**SMH 2.11.22, p. 7**), entitled **Steggall slams reform bill**. It reveals that some Independents and some teals in federal parliament

are particularly worried about the proposed **249 page Secure Jobs Better Pay** legislation. I have not yet bothered to try to read it. Having tried a lot of that legislative stuff before, I guess I wouldn't understand it anyway. Development of plain written information supporting the aims of new state occupational health and safety acts put a lot of that earlier stuff in the background in the 1980s, before normal legal adversarial interests reasserted themselves.

Apparently, some in the federal parliament see the **Secure Jobs Better Pay** legislation as an attempt to unionise smaller private workplaces because trade union organizers are expected to be legally allowed to walk into them and try to engage with workers in enterprise bargaining processes to secure more jobs and better pay from reluctant or forced employers.

Uproar has apparently also centred on provisions that expand the ability to bargain across multiple related employers. I am not surprised that businesses worry that the new bill will draw them into agreements without their consent and expose them to strike action. The global financial crisis was the first time I ever felt seriously intimidated by men working in construction. At that time, I was a member of the strata committee, seeking other projects.

During my experience as a newly retired single householder, in the global financial crisis of 2008, many plumbers and others increasingly poured onto these Glebe strata lands. Some supposedly found asbestos in the grounds and wanted to try to find more by digging up more of the gardens. This was at a time when my superannuation balance was my key but fast dropping support in retirement. I would worry about this proposed legislation too, were I an employer or a related property owner under strata management. What exactly is its aim?

In this general population context of not having a clue what is supposed to be going on in enterprise bargaining, I am indebted to Steven Amendola, a partner at Kingston and Reid, for explaining the legal and political voting difficulties currently facing the various industry divisions of the Construction, Forestry, Mining, Manufacturing and Energy Union (CFMEU)(?) He writes of their difficulties in the Australian Financial Review article **CFMEU divorce facing more obstacles than Henry VIII did** (AFR 2.11.22, p. 39). I mainly question the situation in universities later by recounting my view of enterprise bargaining at Sydney University. I was a member of the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) for eleven years under enterprise bargaining. In my youth in the 1970s I had served for some years on the national

university association executive and in the Macquarie University branch of the national association.

How should any demand for secure jobs and better pay operate? Why not put the aims of this Secure Jobs Better Pay legislation and its key points of operation in plain language and put it on a website for a start in making it new law for new times, with common clear aims. Don't accept a bill that makes little or no sense while demanding a lot longer to debate it, because that uselessly confuses everybody more. After any more clear or intelligent parliamentary address has gone, the usual sets of expensive lawyers take over the usual procedural control. Start with plain English aims and common definitions, not legal tripe.

Everything can be made much cheaper and better when the legal aims and particular objectives at the workplace are put in plain language so their meaning can be pursued better collectively and by individuals. Legal language contained in law or not is often the least plain and sensible English possible in many particular cases. This may be a hugely expensive waste of the time and money for all involved. Why bother to take longer to try to understand incomprehensible rubbish which has accrued over years? Write shorter enterprise bargaining aims, strategies for achieving them and all related meanings clearly. A page seems the logical form of law to serve the people across the whole of Australia and beyond its shores.

In theory, many difficult voting problems may be comparatively easily reduced through common plain written language presentation of the matter for debate, in the light of broader and more holistic approaches to environment aims. This may guide individual operation in the organizational and public interest on and around the spot more broadly. This is a better and cheaper way to improve behaviour in future, through increased understanding of the particular and general environment and case. This is better than mandating operation for all.

In practice, a plainly written language and operation course is hard, as even the clearest discussion in parliament returns immediately to its legal fold after the passage of legislation, forgetting all but the particular legal battles that interest top clients further. Lawyers hate and ignore history and expert knowledge of the general or particular place, unless they are centrally in it, laying down the law in adversarial contexts to others as usual, while obliterating other opposition to their communication as if only what happens in court is great. Theirs is not the only good evidentiary practice for growth. In fact, it is very far from it.

in 2007 at the age of sixty. I was happy to take the good financial package and retire from eleven years of teaching at Sydney University, when it was also pointed out to me that the comparative numbers in my post-graduate subjects were too small. No worries. I hated performing a large, new and growing range of administrative demands on IT, but I had enjoyed subject development and other teaching, especially in undergraduate subjects, to influence a lot of new students from many different places and also to learn from the advance. This was because I had worked for the previous decade in NSW government, learning the supposed principles of risk management for more sustainable development across the regional boards. See more of how I approached my subjects, lectures, research and communication at www.Carolodonnell.com.au guided by the WHO in particular.

During my 11 years' tenure in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Sydney University, I thought the carriage of the enterprise bargaining process was comparatively mindlessly directed. I was glad to see more apparent emphasis on development of the University of Sydney strategic planning process after I left, while retaining contact with the Alumni.

One does not have to be particularly rigid or doctrinaire to think that the organisational strategic plan and attention to related supporting detail should guide the natural collegiate closure impulses. This is to inform all more broadly and cheaply by being better developed and administered. The NTEU search for more pay and more secure jobs seemed comparatively mindless when I was an NTEU member. This was because it appeared to support the existing collegiate and related professional and student closures comparatively mindlessly. The numbers drove the lot rather than the environmental or regional directions of wider, better and cheaper addresses. I have no idea what is happening now at universities in enterprise bargaining. Pray tell us.

Kenneth Rogoff's article entitled **China faces falling returns under Xi** put the proposition that:

The Chinese government strategy of cracking down on tech companies and education entrepreneurs while supporting state-sponsored investment projects looks more like an instrument of control than a sensible economic strategy that could move China closer to becoming a high-income economy. (AFR 2.11.22 p. 38).

Having watched the comparative behaviour of markets in Africa and China from afar for many years I disagree strongly with Rogoff. He is a former chief economist of the International Monetary Fund and professor of economics and public policy at Harvard University. In my view, American economists like him and MP Angus Taylor are likely to

greatly undervalue and underestimate the particular strengths of Australian institutional history and geography in comparison to US institutions for serving people.

Australia is a large island, the geographic size of the US, with a small number of people and states, but a lot of coast and desert country with unique flora and fauna which should be protected and developed for universal enjoyment, work and learning, rather than lost in future. The Australian Constitution, established for federation of states and territories in 1901, is a comparatively clear, benign and basic document of key administrative intent. So is the related NSW Constitution and those in the six other states, compared to many others.

The US Constitution, on the other hand, comes from a much earlier historical period. The secret arms trade is sanctified at the heart of the US Constitution with key related ideas about freedom. American institutions thus protect secret trades in arms and unhinged users of violence against their own and others families. This is occurring long after the increasing wealth of production made this secret weapons trade more widely available universally to many more violent men. Women and children have no similar rights to exist and prosper.

The US has for many years had a comparatively huge and diverse population passing through or living under a large and diverse number of state governments, all with their differently vested historical interests in the international and US markets. Australia is very different.

I guess Americans like Rogoff don't understand the strengths of the national spine of free to air communication networks which easily and effectively reach this entire population for educational purposes in a comparatively small number of states. There is huge comparative potential in Australia for regional services led by a national multicultural broadcaster like SBS TV, radio and translation services, for example. Because I believe the huge potential for good public education which exists in Australia should not be destroyed by normal US IT markets and methods, I naturally feel more optimistic about the Chinese action Rogoff thinks is so silly. *He would say that, wouldn't he?* (I quote a famous English woman hauled up in court.)

I hope you will consider this and the related regional directions regarding the future of birth and death services to wider ranges of Australians and others, as outlined below and attached.

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