

Citizens Electoral Council of Australia



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Housing shortage faked to drive up prices; Isherwood demands *HBPB*

There is no housing shortage in Australia; rather, tens of thousands of empty homes in each capital city are being kept off the market to force property prices up, and sucker investors into becoming debt mules as they race to get into the market.

Citizens Electoral Council leader Craig Isherwood today blasted the fraud: "The faked housing shortage is driving Australia's homelessness crisis, housing affordability crisis, and exploding debt crisis.

"Either the government stops the fraud, and reorganises the economy in an orderly way along the lines of the *Homeowners and Bank Protection Bill (HBPB)*, or the housing bubble that is entirely based on this fraud will soon blow, and there will be chaos," he warned.

The faked housing shortage is the foundation of the impression that Australia has experienced an economic recovery:

After falling six per cent between 2008 and 2009, median property prices in Australia have skyrocketed 12 per cent in one year, and 18 per cent in the hotspot of Melbourne, on the back of the First Home Owner Grant scheme and the hyped-up fear of a housing shortage.

Tabloid media outlets have fed the masses reports of a property-based recovery, and promised property prices will double from \$500 thousand to \$1 million in less than a decade, urging investors to "get in early".

The result is a self-fulfilling prophecy, as panicked investors flee into the market, driving up prices in the huge property Ponzi scheme.

In turn, Australia's banks, which are all heavily exposed to the property bubble, are denying small business the credit they need to survive, but are tripping over themselves to throw money at property investors, including actively encouraging home owners to tap into their rapidly-rising equity to splurge on big-ticket items like new cars and holidays, which is driving up consumer spending, but all based on debt.

Property "hoarding"

All of this, is based on the fraud of a housing shortage: For more than a year, the CEC has received an abundance of anecdotal evidence, that a very large number of residential properties around Australia are sitting empty.

These reports are consistent with the CEC's understanding of the scale of the wave of bank foreclosures in Australia from 2007-09, as rising interest rates drove hundreds of thousands of Australian home owners into severe mortgage stress.

At the height of the foreclosure wave, it was reported that one caravan park in the northern suburbs of Melbourne was turning away up to 80 homeless families per night! [As reported, *Sunday Herald Sun* 9th March, 2008, "Rates slug's new homeless" by Eleni Hale and Kate Adamson.]

What has happened to all of those foreclosed houses?

According to Earthsharing Australia's *I Want To Live Here 2009: Vacancies in Melbourne Report*, based on a very comprehensive survey of 652,695 properties across 23 different municipalities in Melbourne, there are 44,753 vacant properties across Melbourne's inner, western, and south eastern suburbs.

That is a genuine vacancy rate of 1 in 15 properties, or 6.86 per cent, more than half of which are residential houses—and that's not even all of Melbourne surveyed!

The report states that most of the properties are kept empty for speculative reasons, i.e. to help drive the prices up.

"That many empty properties in one cross-section of Melbourne shows there is no shortage, and the government is party to a fraud," Mr Isherwood said.

"If the government is allowing banks and big investors to hoard properties to drive up the market, it is another example of them bailing out the financial system and the bankrupt banks off the misery of families who are struggling to pay their mortgage or their rent, or even find a place to live."

Mr Isherwood insisted this would be fixed with the *HBPB*: "The *HBPB* would have stopped families from losing their homes in the first place, put foreclosed families back into their properties, and reorganised the bankrupt banking system so that its function wasn't dependent upon creating a property debt bubble that deliberately makes housing—a fundamental right—unaffordable, in order to feed the banks' obligations.

"However, because it wasn't implemented, we have a terrible housing affordability and availability crisis, and are deeper into the global economic breakdown crisis.

"All that new debt that is being piled up to create the impression of a recovery will soon explode, so if people want to survive, they better start listening to the CEC and Lyndon LaRouche," he concluded.

ORDER DVD

For a copy of our latest DVD *Homeowners and Bank Protection Bill: The Only Solution*, one-hour documentary, call toll-free 1800 636 432 or send this coupon to: CEC, PO Box 376, Coburg, Victoria, 3058 and leave ALL your details. Price: \$10.00 + P&H \$2.50



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Genocide is Australia's current Population Policy

“Under the prevailing policies of British-led globalisation, free trade, economic rationalism and privatisation of state-owned assets, and the deepening systemic breakdown of the global financial and monetary system, Australians are participating in the collapse of the world's population from nearly 7 billion people to less than 2 billion—genocide on a global level,” Craig Isherwood, leader of the Citizens Electoral Council declared today.

“So, Australia has already adopted a clear population policy, by default—genocide. Let's not kid ourselves: there is no other population policy possible until these policies for global genocide are dumped!

“These policies are simply the modern versions of the same old, but deadly British Empire's opium and slave trading activities of the 18th and 19th centuries. Back then they were designed to specifically destroy the sovereignty of nation states through denying the physical economic development of basic economic infrastructure, and by treating human beings as commodities like cattle—literally tradable commodities.

“That is still the nature of the current policy, and Kevin Rudd's manoeuvres to create a 'Statistical Bean-Counters Ministry for Population' with Tony Burke as its head, is an exercise in pragmatic sophistry. It is as useless as tits on a bull.” Mr Isherwood said.

The CEC National Secretary said a real population policy has to begin with Lyndon LaRouche's Four Powers Agreement, to put the world's financial and monetary system into immediate bankruptcy reorganisation, and a return to policies of national sovereignty with large nation-building physical economic infrastructure projects. He cited as an example U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt's intention with the Bretton Woods agreements in 1944; that is: eliminate empires, use National Banking to cre-

ate sovereign credit, and promote the development of perfectly sovereign nation states through very large scale infrastructure development like that of the Tennessee Valley Authority development.

“Australia is an empty and totally underdeveloped continent and under the prevailing free-trade policies, we have shut down our manufacturing, destroyed our family farmers, and concentrated what little infrastructure we have into the coastal cities. Mining is left to large foreign owned multi-nationals who pay as little as 3.75 per cent in 'trinket' royalties to steal our wealth,” Mr Isherwood said.

“Rural towns and communities are being ruthlessly denuded of people, with most moving to the cities, and the vast areas of northern Australia with its potential to support 100 million people is left empty.

“Australia, currently with a population of 22 million, has a population density of 2.9 people per square kilometre (/km²)—the 3rd lowest in the world behind Mongolia and Namibia in West Africa! In our iconic suburbs of Eastern Sydney, like Manly and Bondi, their population density is 6,900 /km²—2,400 times greater than Australia's average population density.

“Tasmania today, even with its vast wilderness areas, has a population density of 7.4 /km² (2½ times greater than Australia), which if emulated on the mainland would give Australia a population of 57 million people.

“Just think,” he urged, “With the planned development of regional Australia, using ideas such as Professor Lance Endersbee's High Speed Australian Ring Rail, the development of many of our river systems, with nuclear power, we could quickly reach and overtake the population density of Tasmania.”

Mr Isherwood concluded, “What could be possible with real economic development and not looting?”

Find out how our environment can be transformed!



WHAT AUSTRALIA MUST DO to Survive the Depression



Call 1800 636 432 for a free copy of "Australia's Blueprint for Economic Development" *New Citizen*, which includes information on 18 proposed water projects.

