
INVITATION: CPAG Seventh Annual Post-Budget Breakfast 2007:

Budgeting for Children - More or Less?

You are invited to share an early meal and digest the Budget with us, at 7:30am on Fri May 18th at the University of Auckland Tamaki Campus.

Guests will hear from Dr Colin Tukuitonga (Health), Charmaine Pountney (Education) and Donna Wynd (Economics, CPAG). Our MC will be Dr Ian Hassall.

Bookings are essential. See [more >>](#).

You can help: Write a letter before Budget day May 17th

CPAG is calling for supporters to write a letter (or two!) to the Finance Minister, to MPs and to media, in support of Budget generosity to the country's poorest families.

[More >>](#)

Special event: The social determinants of obesity

24 Apr 2007

Harvard Medical School's Prof Ichiro Kawachi is coming to speak in Auckland on the social determinants of the obesity epidemic, on Tuesday 29 May, 6.00pm - 7.00 pm.

[More >>](#)

News and Resources from www.cpag.org.nz

Where to for Welfare?

Families with children who rely on an income-tested benefit are among the poorest in the country. Yet a recent University of Auckland forum found that major, ongoing reforms to the benefit system are taking place without much debate at all. For local and international perspectives on current reform agendas and measures, check out the U of A [Public Policy Group website](#).

For CPAG's recent submission on the Social Security Amendment Bill - which is set to change the whole basis of social security in NZ - click [here](#).

Nikki Turner: Child health and inequality

20 Apr 2007

Dr Nikki Turner told a UNICEF forum in February that to improve child health indicators we must reduce

social and economic inequities affecting children and review all government policy for its effect on them, especially the most vulnerable. Read a summary of her presentation here.

[More >>](#)

Fairer help for families needed, say CPAGers

13 Apr 2007

In today's NZ Herald CPAG's Susan St John and Steve Poletti urge changes to the family assistance system to fulfill its two roles: adjusting tax rates to fairly reflect the numbers of children a family's income has to support, and ensuring that even the worst-off have an adequate income for investing in their children's future.

[More >>](#)

Support Bill to curb serious assaults says CPAG

3 Apr 2007

Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) joins with other organisations concerned with protecting children in fully supporting the Crimes (Substituted Section 59) Amendment Bill. Passage of the Bill will have the vital effect of removing a provision in law which for far too long has been used as a defence by people who seriously assault their children, the group says.

[More >>](#)

Income boost for the poorest very welcome

31 Mar 2007

Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) has welcomed this weekend's increase in family support payments, up by \$10 per week per child. The group says that adequate, secure income protection for families with children – which doesn't suddenly dry up when parents can't work – is proven to be the best way for all of us to help keep children free of poverty and its many consequences.

[More >>](#)

End legal defense for violence against children

26 Mar 2007

CPAG supports full repeal of Section 59 of the Crimes Act, because it currently provides a legal defense for assaults on children which is not available for assaults on adults. Children deserve equal protection under the law. Download supporters flyer here.

[More >>](#)

The Real Kiwi Way? Or the 90s in drag?

22 Mar 2007

Donna Wynd evaluates the National Party's new-found concern for the poor in the latest edition of the Workers Charter - and finds evidence of a prevailing idea in John Key's party that "governments can't do anything right, and the private sector can't do anything wrong."

[More >>](#)

Prof Martin Thrupp: Education's inconvenient truth

22 Mar 2007

Prof Thrupp's inaugural address tackles uncomfortable questions about whose interests are really being served in and through education. He argues that schooling, long geared to the concerns and interests of the middle classes, remains so - and is even increasingly so in some ways.

[More >>](#)

Social Security Amendment Bill submission

13 Mar 2007

Supply side welfare-to-work policies such as those proposed in this Bill will do nothing to alleviate the poverty of New Zealand's poorest families. With so many working poor the problem is, and remains, low income. By refusing to address underlying issues of low abatement thresholds and the high effective marginal tax rates faced by beneficiaries, this Bill will further entrench the divide between deserving and undeserving children, a surprising key feature of the Working for Families package.

[More >>](#)

Income Tax Bill 2007

5 Mar 2007

This Bill is a major rewrite of the Tax Act and it is of key importance to New Zealand to get it right. This submission concentrates on section M "Tax Credits for Families" while noting that other aspects of the Bill are also of concern to CPAG.

[More >>](#)

What's in a name?

3 Mar 2007

CPAG says that March's changes to the names of family assistance payments are a recipe for chaos - and will only make it harder for families to access much-needed support.

[More >>](#)

The Year I Nearly Lost Hope

28 Feb 2007

Leah Haines writes in the Herald on Sunday of the hope and luck that enabled her family to climb the ladder out of the welfare system.

[More >>](#)

CPAG Greeting Cards now available!

23 Apr 2007

CPAG has commissioned a limited number of beautiful greeting cards from four talented young artists. They are available in packs of 12 (3 x 4 designs) from admin@cpag.org.nz, for \$15 + \$5 p&p. They are all-purpose cards: write your own message. See the designs by following this link...

[More >>](#)