

CPAG legal case wraps up soon

CPAG's legal case has been presented to the Human Rights Review Tribunal. **The final, critical phase will be the week of July 14-18.** There has been extensive public and media interest. You can help support our case by

- **Coming along to observe!**

If you are in the Wellington area, and can spare some time, it would be brilliant if you were able to come and observe the hearings. They are held on the 1st floor, 86 Customhouse Quay, from 10am-1pm (with a break from 11:30 – 11:45) and then again in the afternoon from 2:15 – 5:15ish, also with a break in the middle there. This is our last chance to show public support for the case. Afterward, the tribunal judges will go away and consider the evidence and arguments, and make their ruling.

- Writing to newspapers in response to yesterday's articles about **child poverty progress (see below)**.

The current government says it is committed to eliminating child poverty – but we need to ask how and when. And what of the other main political parties? The National Party saw child poverty triple on its watch, during the 90s, yet with an election looming no policy announcements have been made saying how they will ensure income adequacy and income security for our most vulnerable families. You can join widespread calls for cross-party commitment to measurable policy milestones toward ending child poverty by 2020.

- Generally, phoning or emailing media to let them know how important their coverage of poverty issues and the case is, and speaking up for children's rights in public debates about the case - including via letters to the editor, comments on blogs and phone calls to talkback radio.
- Keep an eye on our website www.cpag.org.nz for updates.

More about the case:

CPAG is being represented by the Office of Human Rights Proceedings, in a legal case before the Human Rights Review Tribunal at the AMP Chambers, 86 Customhouse Quay, Wellington, scheduled to sit from 10am every day for the next couple of weeks and open to the public. The group alleges the In-Work Tax Credit is discriminatory and damaging, because children whose parents cannot meet a work test are ineligible for the support needed to keep them out of poverty. Read a [summary](#) of the case or background about the [progress of the case](#).

[Legal case addresses hole in safety net for poorest children – CPAG media release](#)

3 Jun 2008

The CPAG legal case alleges the In-Work Tax Credit discriminates against 220 000 children, on the basis of work status. This discrimination leaves around 150 000 of them in severe or significant hardship by denying their families at least \$60 per week in support for children.

[More >>](#)

Invitation: CPAG Annual General Meeting

4 Jul 2008

Haere mai tatou CPAG invites you to our AGM on 28th July in Auckland 7pm, with special presentation by UK guest Dr Tess Ridge, University of Bath: "Children's experiences of poverty and exclusion."

[More >>](#)

Other news

All titles are links, when underlined in colour:

[New child poverty figures in the right direction but...](#)

3 Jul 2008

Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) says government figures released today confirm the expected improvements in child poverty from Working for Families (WFF). Extra money in families' pockets makes all the difference. But CPAG urges the government to look behind the figures. Children in families who do not meet the WFF work hours requirement and/or are on benefits have been left behind.

[More >>](#)

[Working for Families breaches international law - policy research](#)

4 Jul 2008

Policy research from the University of Otago Wellington has found that in the initial development of Working for Families the Government failed to consider children's rights, including their right to health, breaching binding international law.

[More >>](#)

[Alan Johnson: Reaping rewards of indifference](#)

19 Jun 2008

CPAG's Alan Johnson says wholesale indifference is behind problems facing the Manurewa community.

[More >>](#)

[Poverty History?](#)

Child poverty has fallen on every measure since 2004, the Minister for Social Development and Employment Ruth Dyson said, welcoming a report that confirms 130,000 children have been lifted out of poverty. "We are committed to continuing this work and today I am announcing two further policy changes," said Ms Dyson.

[More >>](#)

Also commenting on these announcements:

- Presbyterian Support - [Reduction in Poverty Figures Welcome News](#)
- COMVOICES - [Govt support for most vulnerable welcome step](#)
- Every Child Counts - [Working for Families reduces child poverty](#)
- Salvation Army - [Salvation Army welcomes boost for poor families](#)

Thanks for your help

CPAG needs ongoing financial support to sustain its research and advocacy programme and to raise awareness of poverty in NZ. Many thanks to those who support us in this important work. Please send donations to Box 56-150 Mt Eden, Auckland or bank directly into our Kiwibank account 38-9003-0066858-00.

CPAG thanks the JR McKenzie Trust and Hostel of the Holy Name Trust for ongoing support. CPAG does not accept funds from the proceeds of gambling.

You have been sent this email because your details appear on a Child Poverty Action Group mailing list of interested people. If you no longer wish to receive information from us, you need only reply to this address with "unsubscribe" in the subject line, and your details will be removed.

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End child poverty in NZ by 2020: A rich life for all children.