

# W.A. Property Rights Association (WAPRA) Inc

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## United we stand – Divided we fail

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Got a story to tell?

Contact us with your details.

Leave a message if no one is in the office.

Tried to set up a business that would employ yourself and others?

Were you impeded by needless red tape and bureaucracy?

Were you stopped from trying to make a living?

## A Change of Emphasis

For five years WAPRA, (West Australian Property Rights Association) has focused on and opposed the unjust infringement of Property Rights by Government Agencies in Western Australia.

While acknowledging that a heightened public awareness of such infringement is useful, we have come to the conclusion that many regard our organisation as representative of an elite, concerned only to protect 'real' property, property which many in the wider community are increasingly unable to afford.

Of course this perception is inaccurate. Many of our clients could not afford lawyers and hence sought WAPRA's assistance. These hardly represent the voice of the wealthy but rather of a growing number of angry people unable to afford legal protection against aggressive bureaucrats using the Crown Law Department.

Additionally however, many of the individuals assisted by WAPRA focus on private concerns rather than Principle. Often, they fail to appreciate the importance of the broader struggle to protect Common Law Rights in general. The "I'm OK Jack" attitude prevails in the community at large, such that, until individuals are personally impacted - they don't give a damn.

Thus, traditional legal Principles foundational to Democracy are unpicked strand by strand, until ultimately the seamless garment is destroyed and the lessons of history forgotten.

The State overwhelms individual property rights incrementally (as in the story of the slow boiling frog) eroding the foundation on which our economic wellbeing depends. This deterioration is less obvious during asymmetric 'boom times' - which reward some excessively while gradually impoverishing many making it increasingly difficult for many to earn a decent living.

After consideration and discussion therefore, the WAPRA Committee has decided to shift the focus of our efforts towards emphasising the importance of WEALTH CREATION in the struggle to protect property rights.

To avoid similar 'elitist' misconceptions, we have chosen to emphasise the critical right of all citizens - TO EARN A LIVING - without undue interference by Government and to change the organisation's name to West Australian People's Rights Association.

Continued.....



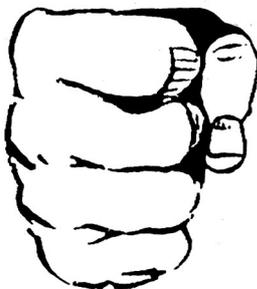
**QUESTION EVERYTHING!  
ASK, ON WHAT BASIS OR  
EVIDENCE IS A DECISION  
BEING MADE ?**

### **MEMBERSHIP ALERT**

We would be delighted if members could email us further examples of reports highlighting the erosion of peoples right to earn a living.

[contact@wapra.org.au](mailto:contact@wapra.org.au)

We will get as many up on the website as we can.



**STOP THE  
LAND GRAB**

Continued from page 1

We maintain there is a critical link between peoples' right to earn a living and the vital requirement of State Protection of property. WAPRA believes that it is the protected 'ownership' principle that energises society, motivating individuals to greater self-sufficiency, productivity and wider participation in community life. They achieve this by wealth creation, which in turn is the well-spring of government revenue.

Even though individuals may not own property (say as Real Estate), it is by earning a living that an individual's investment in property is made possible, whether that property be 'real', personal or intellectual. However, this motivation is seriously compromised when the State not only fails to protect property rights but becomes, ever less subtly, antagonistic to the principle of property ownership and individual enterprise.

Twenty years ago it would have seemed ridiculous in Australia, to insist on a person's right to earn a living. However in that period, government has intruded so regressively into economic life that the task of earning a living is now increasingly jeopardised.

Worse still, we have an influential Green movement, attacking the very notion of 'economic growth' - on the basis that growth allegedly threatens 'environmental sustainability'. This anti-growth rhetoric is a direct challenge to every citizen's task of earning a living.

We reject the notion that economic growth necessarily equates to environmental degradation. In fact we argue the opposite: that without growth, environmental damage is much more likely as societies become impoverished. Wealth enables nations to research and protect the environment.

Concordant with their negative view of economic growth, is the Green demand that restraints be placed on population growth. We argue that this is yet another populist misconception, with potentially disastrous consequences.

Global fertility rates have fallen steeply since 1965 and will reach demographic equilibrium by 2040 - AS LONG AS developing countries are not deprived of affordable energy, something the Greens are hell bent on doing! (What some refer to as the looming 'Green Genocide').

The greater concern ought to be the rate at which populations AGE once fertility rates drop below 2.1 - as they have done in Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore and a number of European countries including Russia. Without new blood - the old quickly deteriorates pensions and all!

Productive Enterprise (and therefore the business of 'making a living') has become so constrained by Government regulation that Australia's productivity and competitiveness is significantly reduced. Jobs are now in jeopardy across a wide spectrum of what once was reliable opportunity. Yet still the Greens argue for 'deGrowth' and ever more regulation. This destroys opportunity and any attempt to create wealth - or earn a living, other than by winning Lotto! Initially the impact is most severe on Small Business, but ultimately ALL WILL PAY.

We have selected a number of current topics taken from Media outlets that show how our productive enterprise is being diminished making it increasingly difficult to earn a living.

## Websites to watch!

www.wapra.org.au  
www.joannenova.com  
steynonline.com/

## Media Articles

### Highlighting the erosion of a right to make living.

#### WATER CORPORATION LEAVES ORD IRRIGATORS HIGH AND DRY.

www.abc.net.au/rural/content/2012/s3430886.htm Extract of article

A decision to lower a lake in Western Australia for maintenance work has ended up costing Kimberley fruit and vegetable growers tens of thousands of dollars.

A handful of growers in the Ord Irrigation Scheme pump water directly from Lake Kununurra to water their crops, but they haven't had access to any water since the state's Water Corporation lowered the lake on February 5.

Banana grower Rex Boland says after a week-and-a-half of no water and temperatures over 40 degrees, his trees are looking very stressed.

He says he will now struggle to produce quality bananas in the coming months.

"The plants are stressed; I'll miss this year's cycle and the fruit will be no good for this year," he said.

"And there's still six days to go (before the lake is refilled), so the plants will get completely stressed and water-deficient and they'll crease over and that will be that."

I do believe that the State Government sells the right to water (in the form of a licence) to these growers.

So the State government owned and run corporation destroys crops taking away an income from the grower. This of course travels down to us having to pay enormous prices for bananas or go without. It then goes further, our food stores source overseas stock supporting overseas growers.

So I guess there will be no picking jobs, no packing jobs and impacts will be felt down the line as well.

So I guess the only one not to make a loss is the State Government owned Water Corporation.

So will the Minister compensate for damages done by his department, as they intentionally ceased access to the water?

So we decide to catch the train to work. Wow try and find somewhere to park to catch the train, and that unmarked parking spot that looked okay and you paid all day for, well the parking fine just made your day didn't it?

With fuel and the cost of running a car rising, taking public transport sounds like a cheaper and easier option but unless a bus runs past your house—you need somewhere to park.

So the solution? Multi story car parks, underground parking?

#### Trees on Manning Road

So trees in the city can be cut down as they impact the council's property negatively, but cut down a tree that is negatively impacting your property in the rural areas and you go to jail for 15 months.

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**“IF THEY DO IT TO  
A FEW THEN THEY  
CAN DO IT TO  
YOU”**

Extract West Australian newspaper Thursday February 16 2012

## PASTORALISTS FIGHT STEEP RENT INCREASES

**'pastoralists are fighting dramatic rent increases imposed by the State Government, arguing the land has been overvalued with assessors ignoring the fact the cattle industry is on life support'**

**'according to the WA Pastoralists and Graziers Association rents were raised by an average of 334% on pastoral leases across the Kimberley'**

**'the costs of running a pastoral station had escalated while profitability of the beef industry had stagnated'**

The federal government overnight and based on no more than emotive reporting (remember the information that was raised in parliament by the employee of the abattoir that he was paid to do what was shown on film by the people filming) shut down an international export market leaving business with nowhere to market their animals. While the trade has once again slowly started, due to Australia's ruined reputation our markets have diminished and overseas buyers are looking elsewhere.

On the back of this Federal Government interference and destruction of livelihoods, our State Liberal/National Government wants to complete the decimation by upping the rents by 334%!

If private landlords did this to private renters the State Government would scream about greedy landowners and rush to parliament to implement a law to try and stop it.

The pastoralists have spent their money on raising the animals to market conditions and then the Government takes away that market, then the State Government comes in and trebles the rent, how can anyone make a living under those conditions?

\* \* \* \* \*

Extract the West Australian Newspaper

## LACK OF LAND ANGERS BUCKERIDGE

**'Developer Len Buckeridge is threatening to take his plans for a new factory offshore after lashing out as a lack of available industrial land in WA.'**

Mr Buckeridge said yesterday he was likely to set up a hollow core concrete slab factory in Jahore, Malaysia, after his bid for a plot of land at Naval Base was rejected by the State Government. He said the 4ha plot of contaminated land had been mostly vacant for the past 30 years, and would have been a suitable site because of its port access.

But he said the Office of State Development rejected his application because it did not comply with regulations that had set aside the area for heavy industry.

A letter to Mr Buckeridge from OSD director-general Stephen Wood said two other sites had been identified as suitable options.

But Mr Buckeridge said one site in Rockingham was too far from the port and the other in the Flinders Precinct was unsuitable 'mountain country' that would take too long to level. He was now considering an offer from the Malaysian Government for free land and a three-year tax holiday in exchange for building the plant in Jahore.

So irrespective of who the person is wanting to set up the plant. An opportunity to create an industry in Western Australia and give jobs to our youth is being stopped by the State Government because of its planning restrictions? No because it is planned for heavy industry. So it is government departmental restrictions that this industry doesn't comply with?

While politically unemployment is low, the reality of the situation outside of Parliament house is high youth unemployment in certain areas, and now all our industries can go offshore (lets face it that's a great offer from Malaysia) due to our State Government and no jobs are left for our children to make a living.