

Dear Mr Garnaut,

I am a mother of 2 girls and I worry day and night what KIND OF FUTURE MY GIRLS WILL HAVE in 10- 20 years. As climate change appears to be happening much more rapidly than we thought, my girls may just be out of High School when large parts of Greenland land ice or Antarctic land ice will have melted away. Just playing it through what it means if our oceans rise by 6m as Al Gore points out in his DVD 'The inconvenient Truth' makes me sick in the stomach. I live in Sydney, close to Middle Harbour a beautiful and privileged area and have started to think about the strategically best place to live, because Manly won't be here, most of Pittwater Rd will be land under, so will be major roads connecting the 'Pittwater' area. Further, up and down the coast our main supply lines (roads and train) will be massively affected, our airport and docks will be a couple of meters below surface and millions of people will be displaced, if not dead. With transportation being massively interrupted for a very long time, food shortages, diseases and most likely civil unrest will occur. Most likely our energy infrastructure will be effected, which in turn means our communication infrastructure may falter. What then? It sounds like Zimbabwe, just for a different reason!

I wonder for HOW MUCH LONGER CAN WE JUST TAKE AND NOT GIVE! Coming originally from Germany I find it hard to understand how so many of my Australian countrymen just take all this beauty for granted. I strongly believe we have the utmost duty to protect it for the future and our children!

And it's not that difficult! Look at so many countries (Europe, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong) which don't count silly pennies when it comes to 'PUBLIC TRANSPORT'. Who cares what it costs to install new fast train connections or extend and upgrade the bus fleet to green vehicles? At the end – even without the danger of Global warming - the community gains massively! Shorter travel times, lower out of pocket expense (1 car family!), better air quality, less 'Trade deficits' (as we import oil and cars on a large scale), less money spent on road building and maintenance and even less road rage/stress. More space for bicycles would also make us fitter (obesity crisis!!) and healthier- less health costs and pressure on hospitals may also result! A HUGE SHIFT FROM CAR TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT should already give us big savings on CO2 emissions. Support or INCENTIVES FOR 'GREENER' CARS would be an added bonus! And all **THIS COULD START TODAY!**

But there is so much more! The WASTE OF ENERGY IN HOUSEHOLDS could be stemmed. Again, it will need a big help by the Government and penny pinching won't get us anywhere. I am an architect and see first hand what happens. My clients are from the 'Middle class'. They are quite well off, but of course, with kids and mortgage any renovations (majority) or new builds have to be as cost effective as possible. Most of my clients start to see the necessity of a 'greener' house and with 'basix' are anyway forced to comply to a certain extend. But I am sure I could convince ALL of them to have a FULLY 'GREEN' HOUSE, if the costs wouldn't be so prohibitive. WHAT WE NEED ARE FREE LOANS FOR THESE INSTALLATIONS. My clients don't mind paying for it over time, but upfront is a problem. I would suggest a system like HECS, where the loans get repaid as the gains from a 'green' building are being realised. For example, my clients install a heat pump for their hot water and a second one for radiator or underfoot (water based) heating. Automatically their gas or electricity bill goes down. Now, the difference would be payable to reduce the loan. The same with Solar panels for electricity production, rainwater tanks – although not a 'Global Warming' issue, could work the same way. The advantage is that the installers stay out of this and therefore will not bump up their prices as happens now with rainwater tank installers. It is an issue between householder and Government and people can take it or leave it. And again, **THIS COULD START TODAY!**

And the easiest way to bring CO2 greatly down in all kinds of households is to PROVIDE 'GREEN' ENERGY AT A REDUCED PRICE and therefore add a penalty to coal etc. produced energy. We have an enormously big country with the highest amount of sunshine (and clean skies in the outback) and surely plenty of wind as well. Why can the Government not support this industry? It would generate jobs for those who might lose their jobs in

environmentally unfriendly industries, it would reduce all household, commercial and industry related CO2 close to zero and it would be a good way for farmers, whose farms are not viable due to increased droughts to make a living, instead of hoping for hand-outs from the Government. It's a big program, but the **FIRST STEPS COULD BE TAKEN TODAY!**

Change of the 'Future Fund' into a 'FUTURE FOR ALL AUSTRALIANS FUND' and invest those A\$ billions without squabbling in the above projects. The turn around could be amazing, the gained knowledge is marketable for future income (see Germany: A nation without sunshine, with very confined spaces is world leader in Solar panel innovation and has lots of wind craft everywhere! They make money out of technology/ knowledge instead of digging in the ground.) And we may even be able to SELL 'GREEN' ENERGY sourced from solar, wind, wave etc to our Asian neighbours, instead of coal! (If we can transport gas from Papua New Guinea to Australia, we can surely find a way for green energy or other products produced with 'green' energy (hydrogen?) to be transported elsewhere). We could **START THIS FUTURE TODAY!**

And finally, I believe by just TEACHING PEOPLE TO LIVE MORE SENSIBLE and be aware of the consequences of their actions, we could reduce our CO2 emissions considerably. 'Buy Australian' and ideally locally produced merchandise should be an imperative, provided the products are as good as or better than overseas products. (I refer to cars where Australia would do good to kick the local manufacturers onto the 'green' path!) A required 'place of manufacture', 'CO2 input' or similar information on products would help consumers make the right choice and force manufacturer's hands.

Education of the population is another part of it; many people haven't got the knowledge to correctly assess their input and the consequences. Instead of wasting money on political ads (How many millions did Howard spend?) they could be informative. There are also issues like double and triple packaging of products (i.e. tooth paste, face creams...), which constitute a waste of resources and energy. And once again, **THIS COULD BE STARTED TODAY!**

I could probably come up with lots more, but I am sure I have made my point: If I as a housewife, mother and architect can come up with all these ideas, how many more possibilities are there? Infinite, I am sure. This means that **WE HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO EXCUSE NOT TO DRASTICALLY REDUCE OUR CO2 PRODUCTION AS OF TODAY!** A start with the education of the law makers/bureaucracy and population, then the implementation of financial support for all 'green' products and installations and penalties for 'CO2' intense products should make it possible to reduce CO2 levels in a very short space of time.

I strongly believe we can do it by 2020. That's in 12 years, just when my youngest comes out of High School. **PLEASE, MR GARNAUT, GIVE MY GIRLS A CHANCE TO LIVE A NORMAL LIFE!**

Thank you for your patience! I would greatly appreciate to hear from you regarding your assessment of my thoughts! I don't know whether you can spare the time, but do hope so.

Kind regards,

Andrea Janssen