

As a result of current economic reformation, the issues that are likely to rear in disproportional rates follow:

- Health
- Education (determined by economic status)
- Homeless
- Prostitution
- Begging
- Drugs, alcohol
- Violence
- Crime
- Mental health (not always related to alcohol and drugs, but to mental, social, and emotional abuse)

The understaffing of health, education, prison, and other institutions means poor service to the public. This is a major security risk for public safety.

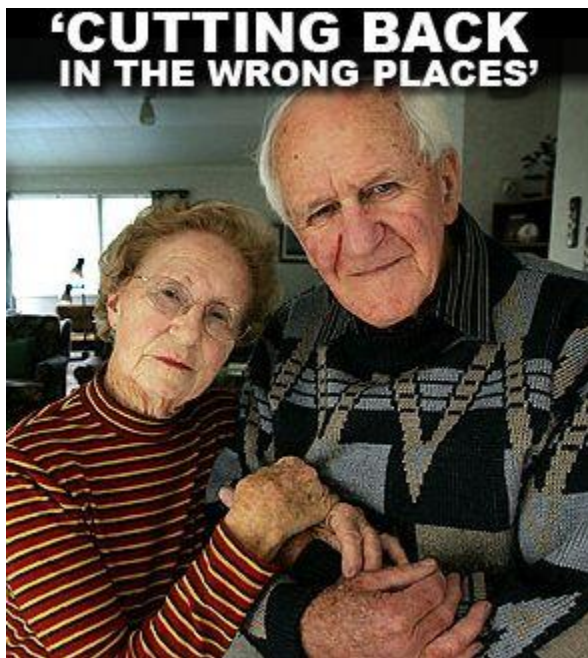
These reforms have shown to cause conflicts and tensions between local competing sectors often resulting with direct violence, loss of property, and lives.

We don't need opportunist politicians who exploit the issues to beat own drums for a popular vote while redirecting attention away from the cause.

We need real genuine leaders (those who are not prophets of the NWO) to take these issues all the way to the UN, the IMF, and regional economic treaties, as we are not the only country affected by IMF economic reformations.

All these cuts are borne by the public while at the same time, it is said that members of the Round Table are paid a sum of \$500 each by tax payer money every time they have a meeting, and not to mention catering among other luxuries. It has also been disclosed that members of parliament's legal fees are also paid by Legal Aid, only in a much higher rate than that available to the public.

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Ailing elderly couple left to fend for themselves

A Waikanae couple in their 80s battling inoperable prostate cancer, incontinence and a shoulder injury have had their home care help axed.

Frank Woodfield, 87, has been battling prostate cancer for three years. The worst symptom is incontinence.

Nelma Woodfield, 81, fell and seriously damaged her shoulder a few years ago. After repeated trips to orthopaedic surgeons she was told nothing more could be done.

"[They] said I had to avoid scrubbing, sweeping and vacuuming," Mrs Woodfield said.

About three months ago their one-hour-a-week home help provided through the Capital & Coast District Health Board was reassessed over the phone. They were told they no longer met the

criteria.

Hundreds of elderly people are having their home-help hours slashed or axed – many by phone interviews – as DHBs try to cut spending to address budget blowouts.

Capital & Coast has refused to say how many elderly people have had hours cut. But Canterbury has cut at least 1200 since last year.

"I find cleaning the bath and shower, washing the lino and tile floors, vacuuming and hanging out washing difficult, but [the assessor] had her own agenda to cut costs," Mrs Woodfield said.

Wondering how they would manage, she contacted the care provider which said it would look into it.

The assessor rang back and confirmed they did not meet criteria and should arrange private help. "I told her we could not afford it, we were living on the pension. We just mess along together but it's not easy."

Mr Woodfield cleans the bath "with difficulty" and his wife cleans the floors – small sections at a time – over the week.

"My biggest fear is losing my driver's licence if I do not look after my shoulder," Mrs Woodfield said.

"Going through the war and Depression we had to manage, make do and accept things. We know there are people worse off than us.

"I think the Government is cutting back in the wrong places on people who do have needs."

The couple believed assessments should be carried out face to face because "many elderly people do not hear well and find it difficult to understand what is going on".

Mr Woodfield was one of about 65 elderly who attended a public meeting in Paraparaumu yesterday, the first of 19 nationwide, amid concerns about aged care. It was organised by Grey Power, Green Party aged care spokeswoman Sue Kedgley and Labour aged care spokeswoman Winnie Laban.

Ms Kedgley urged the crowd to refuse phone assessments and ask for face-to-face interviews.

The meetings are being held to get feedback from elderly people about the care provided in their homes and in rest homes.

Ms Laban said there had been a flood of responses, which would culminate in a report to Parliament in September.

Ms Kedgley said forcing people into care would put more pressure on understaffed rest homes relying on untrained, underpaid caregivers.

There would be outrage if children were treated as poorly as the elderly, she said. "If toddlers were being left unfed, malnourished, dehydrated with inadequate care and untrained staff there'd be a national scandal."

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/health/3689448/Ailing-elderly-couple-left-to-fend-for-themselves>

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Victoria University closes door on undergraduates

Wellington's Victoria University has announced it will not be accepting any more domestic applications for undergraduate study for the rest of the year.

"Due to a considerable surge in demand and limited resources, Victoria has been forced to make this difficult decision," Chancellor Ian McKinnon said in a statement today.

"The university has no further capacity for new domestic undergraduate applicants this year. In addition, enrolling new domestic undergraduate applicants could compromise the quality of outcomes for current students."

Vice-chancellor Pat Walsh said the decision had not been made lightly, and that the university would simply not be able to cope if enrolment targets were exceeded.

"The university took steps to manage its enrolment numbers at the beginning of the year, including applying a late enrolment fee and firmly applying the academic progress statute. However, while these measures have had a considerable impact, it was not enough to cope with recent acceleration in demand," Mr Walsh said.

Applications from international students were still open.

Government funding criteria changed in 2008 to cover only an agreed number of students at each tertiary institution, prompting universities to cap student numbers.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/education/3689256/Victoria-University-closes-door-on-undergraduates>