The Centre for Independent Studies **ANNUAL REVIEW 2014**



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Goals and Aims

The Centre for Independent Studies (CIS) is Australia's leading independent public policy research think tank.

Founded in 1976, the CIS has been a long-standing advocate for the market economy and a free civil society under a democratic government. The CIS promotes a strong civil society in which liberty is paramount, families and education are valued, economic freedom and property rights are assured, and individual responsibility and initiative are encouraged.

Through a rigorous research program and wideranging event activities, the CIS encourages serious debate among academics, politicians, media and stakeholders with the aim of assisting in the formulation and development of evidencebased policy recommendations for Australia's future prosperity and wellbeing.

The CIS promotes:

- individual liberty and choice, including freedom of association, religion, speech and the right to property
- an economy based on free markets
- · democratic government under the rule of law
- · an autonomous and free civil society.

The CIS and its research are:

- funded by private donations—from individuals, companies, charitable trusts and foundations—as well as subscriptions, events and book sales
- politically non-partisan
- driven by the Executive Director and the research team. The CIS does not undertake commissioned research.

Independence is of utmost importance to us.

From the Executive Director

Inevitably when you work in an area that intersects society and government—as we do at CIS—and your aim is to do something positive about that contested territory, you end up talking to a lot of unhappy and disappointed people. And frankly, you get pretty disappointed yourself.

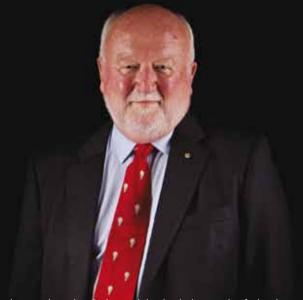
Modern politics, no matter where you look, seems too often to be in a state of crisis. Society, however you define it, has to cope with this. But society also has to think about what it expects of government because it's not costless, financially and in so many other ways. Government is crowding out society and increasingly the limits of government are on display. We just cannot turn the other way. We are part of the problem, but we are also the solution.

There's a way of thinking about things at the CIS. Something like this: 'Prosperity and human flourishing is achieved by allowing people to get on with their lives without excessive government intervention'. It helps guide our thoughts every day as we talk to media, write our research papers and opinion pieces, host events and create our videos.

This fundamental guiding idea, plus observations—especially more recently—of the precarious conditions in which many countries find themselves, underpins our decision to focus a good part of our energies on government spending. Because if it's not brought under control, there will be little room for people to be doing what they should for themselves. There's an urgency in this and, with few exceptions, politicians are failing to provide leadership. We all know what the fiscal situation is like in Europe and other parts of the world and to date we seem to have escaped much of this; but the clock is ticking.

The need for governments to get their budgets under control and not saddle future generations with the profligacy of today is critical, but they also need to reconsider what it is they should be doing. Firstly whether a function is that of government at all; and secondly where in fact government responsibilities should rightly lie in our federal system. This thinking stimulated our TARGET30 initiative—to reduce the government share of GDP to 30% in 10 years—which has been the focus for much of our research and has in turn led to even more involvement at the practical policy level. There's an urgent need for the initiative.

For example the research team brought together much of the TARGET30 research already undertaken at the



time and made a substantial submission to the federal government's Commission of Audit. Research Fellow Simon Cowan appeared at the Senate Committe inquiring into the Commission and many of our suggestions in areas like family tax benefits, reforming federalism, and improving the transparency of the budget process, were included.

Practical policy engagement has been an increasing part of the CIS agenda. We want to see change for the better, so convincing government of whatever persuasion and at any level as to the merits of our arguments is part of our task. In the current political climate I believe it has become more important. As we are seeing, politics often outweighs policy. But it can never be overstated that our educative role is for the public at large. In a democracy this is a critical function for us. Good policy also depends on an informed public and if the political classes are failing to bring the public with them, then that's a void we can fill.

We send our reports to our members and many relevant stakeholders including politicians, the media, government department personnel and officials; organise meetings to explain our research; attend relevant events and have active engagement with media across the spectrum. We are not in the business of lobbying, but it is the job of the CIS to educate, talk to whoever wants to listen, try and engage those who are not yet listening, and never give up arguing our case for a better society of free and responsible citizens.

Often change happens a long time after the initial research is produced. For example, Dr Jeremy Sammut started writing about the difficult area of child protection and

adoption laws in 2009. His evaluation of the problems and his solutions are now being reflected in significant legislative changes.

One of the very positive things flowing from the support we receive is to give researchers the necessary time to produce rigorous and precise work, and to delve further than the ubiquitous generalist 'talking heads' in the policy world.

The pay-off in effort is now occurring regularly with, for example, Dr Jennifer Buckingham being recognised nationally as a leading expert on school choice and literacy. She is often called to speak to state and federal policy makers and her push for phonics instruction has been included in the National Curriculum Review.

I certainly don't dismiss the importance of the 'talking heads' and the power of social media and videos in getting the message out. We have ramped up our media expertise and have seen an increase in the range of coverage across newspapers, radio and TV. We have also dramatically improved our video material and continue to see an increasing number of views online. I commend you to go to our YouTube channel at http://www.youtube.com/user/CISAus where you will see videos of events, lectures and informational presentations about our research papers.

It's been a solid and productive year at the CIS and as a result of increasing levels of support, we have been able to add significantly to our research team and in other areas such as our online presence. The challenges we face and seek to address regrettably seem to be growing, but with a highly dedicated and motivated team we are there to meet them. Without your support we could not do anything: everyone who works at the CIS is acutely aware that we depend on the generosity of the public and we work hard to get the most from every dollar. We thank you all for your support. Alongside the staff, the Board of the Centre is committed to the Centre's mission, its research foundations and its focus on the long term. At the recent AGM, long serving director Peter Yates AM retired and we thank him for his input and support over many years.

As I began, so I end. As my colleague Cassandra Wilkinson said 'it's no surprise that we are disappointed in politics and politicians. We have let them create a job for themselves that is too big, too complicated and too centralised for anyone to do well'. It's up to us all to realise that government does have limits and to acknowledge that it's time to reverse decades of government growth and return to society the opportunity to manage its own responsibilities. The clock is ticking.









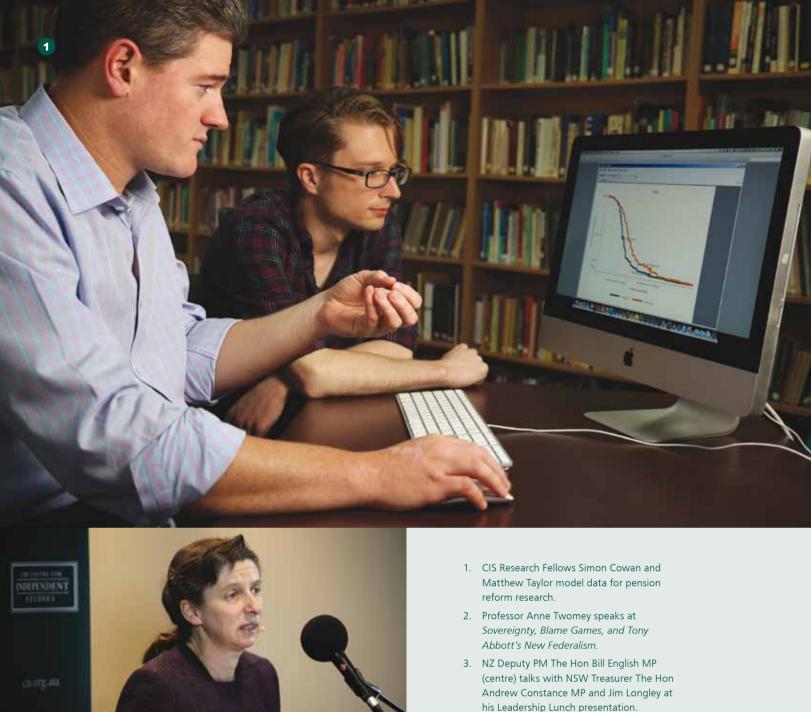








Dee Lidsay



- his Leadership Lunch presentation.
- 4. Shadow Treasurer The Hon Chris Bowen MP outlines his plan for the economy at a Leadership Lunch.



Economics

Free market economies with limited government have a superior track record of delivering widespread prosperity and human benefit when compared to planned economies. While Target30 has been the focus of our research into good fiscal management, we also pursued a large number of research programs addressing improvements to economic policy. Our most significant contribution to structural economic reform this year was our focus on federal-state financial relations and the revival of Australian federalism.

Our mission

- Demonstrate the benefits of free trade and deregulation to national prosperity and flourishing
- Reduce the size of general government in Australia from 35% of GDP to no more than 30%
- Government accountability with performance reporting
- Promote effective federalism, devolution and subsidiarity in tax and regulation
- Reduce tax complexity and improve predictability
- Encourage competition in service provision by non-government and private providers
- Encourage personal responsibility and self-reliance to limit the growth of the state

Our program

- Demonstrate the benefits of tax reduction
- Identify opportunities for government to stop waste
- Promote outsourcing and privatisation where competitive markets can be established
- Remove duplication in federal and state governments
- Identify more cost effective models for major spending programs including health

Federalism

In response to the announcement of a review leading to a White Paper on Reform of the Federation to be released in 2015, CIS held a public forum on reform of the Australian federation. The forum featured former NSW Premier Nick Greiner; constitutional lawyer and expert Professor Anne Twomey; CIS Senior Fellow Robert Carling; and CIS Research Fellow Dr Jeremy Sammut. Their presentations, published as Sovereignty, Blame Games and Tony Abbott's New Federalism, call for clearer lines of responsibility between the Commonwealth and states; fiscal federalism to strengthen accountability of each level of government; and reform of public hospital funding.

Economic regulation

The need for limited, certain and prudent regulation was a focus of several publications investigating in particular the housing market, industry policy, macro-prudential policy, strengthening Australia's fiscal institutions, and a detailed submission to the National Committee of Audit recommending practical measures to bring the federal budget back into surplus and begin to repair the structural fiscal gap.

From the principle that it is vital to the functioning of democracy that voters know what their taxes are paying for, CIS Senior Fellow Robert Carling published the paper *Where Your Tax Dollars Go* and a roundup of the worsening fiscal performance of the states, *States of Debt*—which showed that in the six years to 2013, states added \$70 billion to their general government net debt, to reach a positive level of \$43 billion.

As housing prices continued to rise, Research Fellow Dr Stephen Kirchner produced common sense research showing government policy and regulation was largely to blame rather than foreign investors, negative gearing or others of the *Eight Housing Affordability Myths*.

Ideas with Impact: Economics





REDUCING THE BURDEN FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS



- NSW Premier The Hon Mike Baird MP is interviewed by Robert Carling at the Leadership Lunch State Government: Can it Survive, Can we do better?
- 2. NZ Deputy PM The Hon Bill English MP delivers a Leadership Lunch address *The Productivity Puzzle: What the Government Can Contribute.*
- 3. CIS Research Fellow Simon Cowan attended the stakeholder lock-up for the 2014-15 Budget.
- 4. Former NSW Premier The Hon Nick Greiner delivers an address at Sovereignty, Blame Games, and Tony Abbott's New Federalism.

STUDIES

is.org.au

TARGET30

Launched in 2013, the TARGET30 campaign promotes the benefits of smaller government, less official intrusion into people's lives, and the need to cut government spending to less than 30% of GDP by 2023 reducing the financial burden for future generations.

TARGET30 in the budget

The principles of the CIS and TARGET30 had a strong impact on both the Commission of Audit Report and the Budget itself. The Budget picked up the Medicare co-payment model outlined in our Emergency Budget Repair Kit, and outlined the unfairness of intergenerational debt burdens – a driving theme of the TARGET30 campaign.

Reports and publications

- In addition to an online Budget roundup, seven TARGET30 papers were released in 2014:
- Fairer Paid Parental Leave
- Withholding Dividends: Better ways to make the public service more efficient
- · School Funding on a Budget
- Submission to the Commission of Audit
- · States of Debt
- · Strengthening Australia's Fiscal Institutions
- Emergency Budget Repair Kit

The Budget

TARGET30 program director, CIS Research Fellow Simon Cowan, attended the stakeholder lock-up for the 2014/15 Budget to network with other interested organisations and to give real time media feedback on the budget, including on-the-spot commentary delivered from the parking lot at the Treasury Building for a broadcast on ABC Radio National Drive.

The National Commission of Audit

The CIS's substantial submission to the federal government's Commission of Audit, encapsulated much of the TARGET30 work done to date, bringing

the relevant policy research together into a single cohesive document. The time and effort spent on the submission was rewarded by the Commission giving serious consideration to CIS policy proposals for family tax benefits, reforming Federalism and improving the transparency of the budget process.

Appearance before the Senate Committee into the Abbott Government's Commission of Audit

The CIS profile and principles received significant promotion with our appearance before the Senate Committee on the Commission of Audit. We strongly argued the need for smaller government and reforms to government spending, and many of our points were used in the Senate Committee's interim report.

Wastewatch

The WasteWatch blog entered its second year of operation, maintaining its light-hearted and trenchant examination of government spending. Averaging 1.5 posts per week, the blog paid particular attention to the odds and ends of government waste—lavish dinner parties, expensive logo redesigns, high-priced celebrity speakers for government events, and the like.

These eye-catching stories drew attention from such media outlets as Channel 10 News, which featured WasteWatch in a video segment on federal overspending.

Media

The ideas behind TARGET30 are a key feature in much of the media work the CIS undertakes. Particularly strong media impact was achieved by the TARGET30 education report, which was covered by five TV channels, 32 radio stations, an opinion piece in The Australian, news stories on 160 mastheads and saw a spike in CIS website pageviews to nearly 5,000 on the first day or publication.

Looking forward

We have several more publications planned for 2015, including some ground-breaking research on ageing, focusing on ways to reduce the crippling future burden of pension expenditure.





- 1. Bettina Arndt speaks about the risks of broken homes at the public lecture *Fractured Familes*.
- 2. CIS Research Fellow Dr Jeremy Sammut published several papers on health and child protection.
- 3. CIS Policy Analyst Trisha Jha's research investigated the cost of childcare.
- 4. CIS Policy Analyst Helen Andrews researched the charity sector and preventive health.
- 5. Professor Patrick Parkinson speaks about the impact of failed marriages at *Fractured Familes*.
- (Page11) CIS Research Fellow Dr Jennifer Buckingham's research was reflected in the National Curriculum Review.





Social Foundations

The Centre's Social Foundations Program has influenced government policy directions and made a significant impact on public perceptions through the media.

Health, child protection, welfare, childcare and education issues were at the forefront of CIS research in 2014, with researchers delivering policy proposals and expert commentary that aims to continue shaping the national debate on these issues.

Health

The recommendation by CIS Research Fellow Dr Jeremy Sammut in the TARGET30 *Emergency Budget Repair Kit* for a co-payment for GP and other Medicare services was endorsed by the Commission of Audit and flagged for inclusion in the Budget by the federal government.

The Commission early in 2014 also endorsed meanstesting Medicare as proposed by Dr Sammut's TARGET30 report of March 2013, and state government reform of public hospitals, as recommended in his report of October 2013, co-written with Professor Peter Phelan.

In July, Dr Sammut and CIS Senior Fellow David Gadiel published *Lessons from Singapore: Opt-Out Health*

Savings Accounts for Australia, which argued that Australia should emulate the affordable, cost-effective Singapore health system by allowing individuals to voluntarily opt out of Medicare and establish a Health Savings Account (HSA) to self-finance their own health care. The report attracted strong and favourable media coverage, including interviews on the 2GB Alan Jones Breakfast Show, Richo and Jones on SKY TV, and Amanda Vanstone on ABC Radio National Counterpoint.

Dr Sammut's proposals for public hospital reform were presented with former NSW Premier Nick Griener at the CIS Federalism event, and were subsequently published in *Sovereignty, Blame Games and Tony Abbott's New Federalism*.

Child protection and family life

Dr Sammut's report *The New Silence: Family Breakdown and Child Sexual Abuse* argued early in 2014 that the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse should acknowledge the overwhelming evidence showing that children who do not live with both natural parents are at much greater risk of sexual abuse. This report was subsequently the basis of the well-attended 'Fractured Families' forum at Macquarie Bank Theatre, alongside family law expert Professor Patrick Parkinson and social commentator Bettina Arndt. This was recreated as a well-received session at Consilium in August.

Ideas with Impact: Fixing Illiteracy



In May 2014, Dr Sammut published *Still Damaging* and *Disturbing: Australian Child Protection Data and National Adoption Targets*, and his views on national adoption targets were canvassed by a number of media outlets, including ABC News Breakfast and The Alan Jones Show. The NSW government's pro-adoption reform agenda, inspired largely by Dr Sammut's child protection research since 2008, has now been passed by NSW Parliament, while the Victorian government has also passed new permanent care laws that are consistent with the major recommendations of his work.

Family and welfare policy

CIS researchers were invited to a 2014 consultation session for the government's Welfare Review Taskforce, resulting in a submission by CIS Policy Analyst Trisha Jha and former Policy Analyst Alexander Philipatos, which tackled the problem of youth welfare reliance. CIS Research Fellow Matthew Taylor was invited to participate in a policy forum in July to discuss the interim report of the Taskforce with other stakeholders.

The Disability Support Pension (DSP) was also an important policy issue in 2014, with Trisha Jha making an appearance on ABC News in April and Matthew Taylor appearing on SBS's Insight program in August to discuss DSP reform.

Matthew Taylor's report, Fairer Paid Parental Leave, made the case for an Income Contingent Loans scheme, similar to the Higher Education Contributions scheme, as a more equitable and fiscally sustainable policy alternative to the government's Paid Parental Leave proposal. The release of the report was timed to coincide with the first sitting day of the new Senate at which time there would be maximum media attention

focused on the government's more controversial policies. This approach proved successful with Matthew Taylor appearing on Channel Ten News and Channel Ten's The Project, and being interviewed on 14 radio stations including 2UE, 2GB, 3AW and a number of ABC stations.

The sheer size of government spending on family payments was explored in Trisha Jha's report *Complex Family Payments: What it Costs the Village to Raise a Child*, which garnered considerable attention in print and radio media.

Trisha Jha's Regulating for Quality in Childcare: The Evidence Base, also received high media coverage, and sparked significant outcry from the childcare industry because of the report's conclusion that there is little evidence costly childcare regulations lead to benefits for children.

School education

Education research, commentary and activities undertaken by CIS Research Fellow Dr Jennifer Buckingham covered a variety of issues, including federalism, teacher education, IQ, and school autonomy.

The impact of CIS's education policy work is most evident in three areas in particular – school funding, NAPLAN and My School, and reading instruction.

The lack of a relationship between school funding and school performance is now widely accepted. Dr Buckingham's work has been drawn upon in the public debate, has informed government policy development and is frequently quoted in articles on education. Her TARGET30 publication *School Funding on a Budget*,

Ideas with Impact: Fixing Child Protection





which analysed school funding trends and proposed ways to curtail funding increases, attracted record amounts of media attention from newspapers, radio and TV.

Dr Buckingham has been a vociferous supporter of maintaining the national assessment program, NAPLAN, as well as the website that reports schools' results, My School. The federal government has shifted its position on NAPLAN and My School in line with her proposals, deciding not to reduce the scope of these programs.

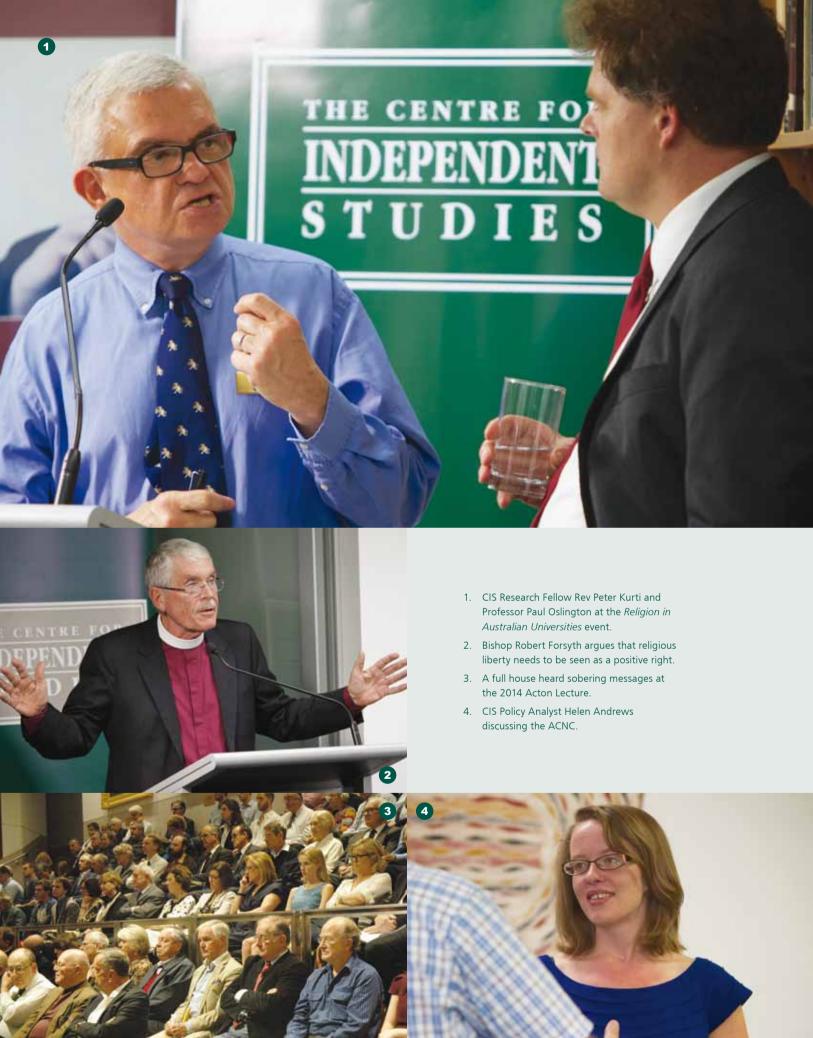
Dr Buckingham's work on effective reading instruction, both in terms of publications and personal representations, has influenced some substantial policy shifts, attracted bi-partisan support and was strongly endorsed in the review of the national curriculum. In December 2013, a CIS policy forum was held to follow up on the positive response to Dr Buckingham's article 'Why Jaydon Can't Read'. The speeches at this well-attended event were published in February 2014 and the resultant videos have attracted strong audience numbers. Dr Buckingham gave a well-received briefing

on reading instruction to the federal department of education.

In May, Dr Buckingham graduated with a PhD from Macquarie University. Her thesis has been published in a series of academic journals and Jennifer was awarded several academic prizes for research excellence. This research has provided firm scholarly foundations for the CIS's work on reading and literacy.

Looking forward

Research in 2015 will investigate the ways in which policies that facilitate parental choice and school autonomy can produce greater quality and diversity; the case for a self-reliant, savings-based health system; structural reform of Australia's archaic public hospital system; and reform of Australia's child protection system in the best interest of vulnerable children. Research on age pension reform is currently under way, with a report due for release early next year exploring strategies to make the age pension more equitable and sustainable.



Religion and Civil Society

The CIS's Religion and Civil Society program (RCS) explores the place of religion and religious belief in a liberal society. The program also evaluates the nature of religion's contribution to social capital in a civil society.

RCS is coordinated by the CIS Research Fellow Reverend Peter Kurti, an Anglican minister and the principal contributor to the program, which also dovetails with the work of Policy Analyst Helen Andrews in the Social Foundations Program.

CIS opinion pieces and commentary on religion and civil society have been sought by *The Australian, The Daily Telegraph, Quadrant Online, Online Opinion, ABCTV's The Drum* and ABC's *Religion & Ethics Report, ABC 702, 2UE and 2GB.*

In *The Forgotten Freedom: Threats to Religious Liberty in Australia*, Peter Kurti examined the extent to which the pursuit of equality in society is threatening the free expression of religious belief.

Helen Andrews questioned the value and purpose of recent legislation establishing the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC) in Independent Charities, Independent Regulators: The Future of Not-for-Profit Regulation.

Events

Peter Kurti delivered papers on *The Forgotten Freedom: Threats to Religious Liberty in Australia* at the Earhart Foundation Conference 'Religion and the Idea of Liberty' in the US, and *The Christian Roots of Religious Liberty* at Assembly of Confessing Congregations of the Uniting Church of Australia in Sydney.

The 2014 Acton Lecture Catholic Resistance to German State Persecution: Lessons for Modern Australia was delivered by The Hon Dyson Heydon AC QC. The policy forum A Quartet of Freedoms: Freedom of Speech, Association and Conscience was delivered by Bishop Robert Forsyth and Dr Jeremy Sammut, with the proceedings subsequently published. A roundtable discussion with religious and community leaders examined the capacity of faith-based organisations to pursue their activities and interests in contemporary Australia.

Looking forward

Australia has been committed to a policy of multiculturalism for 30-40 years and calls for freedom of religious expression and practice are likely to entail calls to curtail freedom of expression to avoid offending religious and cultural minorities. The RCS will continue to explore the influence and impact of religion in Australia.

Ideas with Impact: Religion and Civil Society

AFFAIRS CIS expresses the concerns of many civil society groups opposed 2014 CIS publishes to increasing regulation 2013 CIS Slash Red Tape by Slashing Regulator Incoming publishes In the government Pay of the Piper: Shadow Minister Governments, indicates addresses CIS commitment Not-for-Profits. committing to to abolishing and the Burden of reduce burden on Regulation **ACNC** civil society



Foreign Policy

CIS researchers contribute to public debate on a wide range of topical foreign policy issues, including the rise of religious extremism, the expanding US security presence in Asia, and China's challenge to the US-led liberal world order. Interviews, commentary and articles regularly appear in international and Australian media, including Al Jazeera, Sky News, ABC, The South China Morning Post, Xinhua and The Australian. With the US strategic 'pivot' to Asia and China's economic and military resurgence, Australia's regional foreign policy is increasingly contentious. The CIS will continue to advocate pragmatic and cautious foreign policy settings to safeguard a peaceful and prosperous Asia.

Research

In March 2014, Research Fellow Dr Benjamin Herscovitch released *Preserving Peace as China Rises I*, which proposed strategies to simultaneously reassure Asia's established powers and accommodate China's growing international ambitions. This was followed in September 2014 by the release of *Preserving Peace as China Rises II: Preparing for a Post-American Asian Order*, which made the case for maintaining Asia's balance of power as China overtakes the United States economically and militarily.

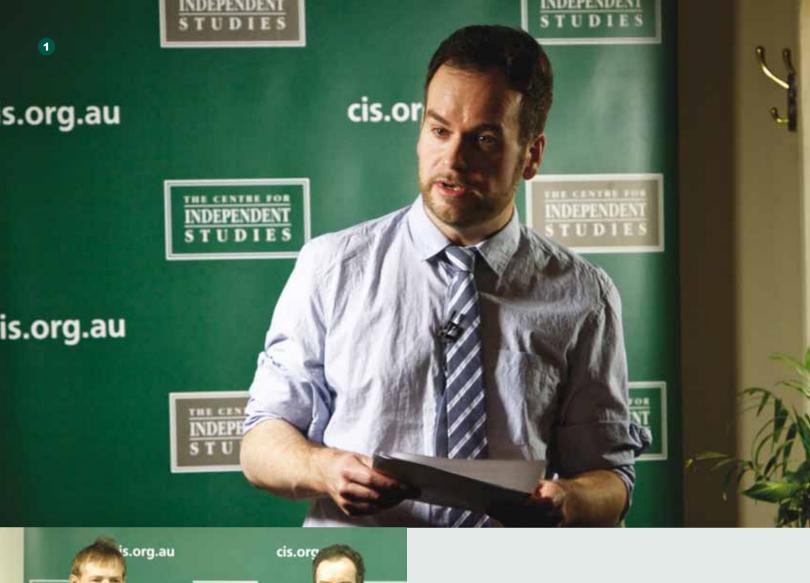
Dr Herscovitch also made submissions to two government inquiries into efficiency reforms for the Australian aid program in February 2014, and made a submission to the *Defence White Paper 2015* in October 2014.

In March 2014, the CIS hosted a panel discussion between Dr Herscovitch, John Garnaut from Fairfax Media, Tom Switzer from the University of Sydney, and a senior official from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Dr Herscovitch also presented the findings of his report *Preserving Peace as China Rises I* to an audience of senior Chinese academics and officials at the Carnegie-Tsinghua Center for Global Policy in Beijing in April 2014. This was followed by a presentation of the findings of *Preserving Peace as China Rises II* to a Carter Center forum on Sino-US relations in Xi'an in September 2014.

Looking forward

Research in 2015 will include reports on the implications of classical liberalism for foreign policy, and on the key threats to the US-led liberal world order. These reports will serve as the basis for a series of publications offering classical liberal solutions to the most pressing foreign policy challenges facing Australia and its region.





- 1. CIS's first Scholar-in-Residence Brendan O'Neill gave several addresses.
- 2. Columnist Nick Cater and Brendan O'Neill present their views at *The Age of Endarkenment*.
- 3. Guests packed Sydney's Occidental Hotel to hear Brendan O'Neill.
- 4. Brendan O'Neill discusses op-eds writing with CIS staff.

Scholar-in-Residence

With the generous support of a donor, the Centre was able to host the inaugural CIS Scholar-in-Residence, Brendan O'Neill. As Editor of the hugely popular UK journal Spiked Online, he brought a plethora of ideas and opinions, focusing on freedom of speech, religion and action in particular.

It was a highly successful initiative. His publication, events and media coverage had the added benefit of introducing new people to the CIS and our ideas. During April he participated in seven CIS events in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne, wrote four opinion pieces, had five radio and four TV interviews including an appearance on the ABC Q&A.

In addition, he continued to write *Spiked Online* columns, spent time in discussion with the CIS researchers, ran a session for staff on writing opinion pieces, involved himself on social media platforms and met a number of CIS donors and members either formally or informally.

The Scholar-in-Residence is planned to become an annual activity with the 2015 scholar currently being finalised.





Events Highlights

The CIS was pleased to organise and host a wide variety of both public and private events through 2014, a selection of which are outlined below. A full summary of event activities appears on page 20, and video footage of many of these talks are available to watch at www.cis.org.au.

Leadership Lunches

The highly successful Leadership Lunch series continued with excellent results and strong interest from the senior business community. Opening the 2014 series in February, New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister for New Zealand, The Hon Bill English MP, outlined what governments can contribute to productivity. The following month, and just days before his resignation as National Secretary of the Australian Workers Union, Paul Howes spoke passionately to the assembled CIS crowd about why union reform is essential for the modern economy. In April, not long before he became NSW Premier, then-state Treasurer The Hon Mike Baird MP talked about how to improve state government. Subsequent lunches included addresses by Tony Shepherd AO, head of the Commission of Audit; The Hon Paul Fletcher MP, Member for Bradfield and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Communications; The Hon Chris Bowen MP, Shadow Treasurer; and Warren Mundine, Chair of the Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council.

Daniel Hannan MEP visit

Member of the European Parliament, Daniel Hannan MEP, kicked off our interstate events program for 2014 in February, discussing *Protecting our Liberty to Secure our Prosperity* at business lunches in Perth and Melbourne, and also spoke at a lunch for NSW parliamentarians and at a number of private events.

Acton Lecture

The Annual Acton Lecture on Religion and Freedom was delivered in May this year by former High Court judge, The Hon Dyson Heydon AC QC. In a brilliant address on *Catholic Resistance to German State Persecution: Lessons for Modern Australia* that received wide acclaim, Mr Heydon discussed the new intellectual intolerance for Catholicism.

John Bonython Lecture

A large, engaged audience gathered in the Grand Ballroom of the Westin Sydney in mid-November to hear one of the world's foremost counterinsurgency experts, Dr David Kilcullen, discuss the background to modern jihadists and why there can be no meeting of minds and no ideological sympathy or tolerance between these extremists and the West. In his speech, What are We Fighting For? Islamism and the Threat to Liberal Ideas. A full transcript of the speech is available on the CIS website at www.cis.org.au as are select video highlights of the address, and we encourage you to take the opportunity to learn more from an outstanding military and scholarly mind about the background behind radicalised Muslims and their desire for a global caliphate.

Enlightenment events

Fatal Shore or Land of Opportunity explored the liberal ambitions of the founders of Australia. The evening featured Justice Michael Pembroke author of Arthur Phillip: Sailor, Mercenary, Governor, Spy. Andrew Tink shared the story of Lord Sydney: the Life and Times of Tommy Townsend. The event was MC'd by David Hunt, winner of the 2014 Indie Award for non-fiction for his humorous and fascinating book Girt: The Unauthorised History of Australia. In other parts of the Enlightenment program, Nick Cater presented his publication The Enlightenment Made Us, and joined with Brendan O'Neill for The Age of Endarkenment.

Events at a Glance

Public Lecture

Fractured Families: The Cost of Not Talking about Children and Marriage

Dr Jeremy Sammut, Bettina Arndt, Professor Patrick Parkinson

Leadership Lunch

The Productivity Puzzle: What the Government Can Contribute

The Hon Bill English MP

Lunch

Address to the NSW Parliament

Dan Hannan MEP

Public Lunch Address

Protecting our Liberty to Secure our Prosperity - Melbourne

Dan Hannan MEP

Public Lecture

Will Beijing's Bullish Foreign Policy Upset Asia's Delicate Peace?

Dr Benjamin Herscovitch, John Garnaut, Graeme Meehan, Tom Switzer

Leadership Lunch

State Government: Can it Survive, Can we do better?

The Hon Mike Baird MP

Public Lecture

The Annual Acton Lecture

The Hon Dyson Heydon QC

Public Lecture

Nannies, Nudgers and Naggers: The New Enemies of Freedom

Brendan O'Neill

JANUARY

Public Lecture

Religion and Australian Universities: A Tale of Horror and Hope

Professor Paul Oslington

Public Lunch Address

Protecting our Liberty to Secure our Prosperity - Perth

Dan Hannan MEP

Dinner

CIS Board Dinner

Dan Hannan MEP

Leadership Lunch

Why Union Reform is Necessary for the Modern Economy

Paul Howes

Public Lecture

Nannies, Nudgers and Naggers: The New Enemies of Freedom

Brendan O'Neill

Dinner Lecture

Nanny State Totalitarians - Brisbane

Brendan O'Neill

Public Lecture

What is the Point of the ABC? Is There a Case for Public Investment in Broadcasting?

Brendan O'Neill, Nick Cater, Paul Kelly and Andrew West

Public Lecture

The Age of Endarkenment? Bringing the Enlightenment Back to the 21st Century

Brendan O'Neill and Nick Cater

Leadership Lunch

Towards Responsible Government

Tony Shepherd

Public Lecture

Minor Parties, Major Impact!

Senators Bob Day & David Leyonhjelm, Simon Cowan, Cassandra Wilkinson

Public Lecture

A Quartet of Freedoms: Freedom of Religion, Speech, Association & Conscience

Bishop Robert Forsyth, Dr Jeremy Sammut

Public Lecture

Sovereignty, Blame Games, and Tony Abbott's New Federalism

The Hon Nick Greiner, Robert Carling, Professor Anne Twomey, Dr Jeremy Sammut

Public Lecture

Is There Such a Thing as Ethical Technology?

Nick Cater, Helen Andrews, Dr Ryan Messmore

Public Lecture

Big Ideas Forum - The Grit in the Oyster: In Praise of Contrary Opinion

Professor James Allan, Nick Cater, Dr Tony Moore, Christopher Snowdon

Leadership Lunch

Blueprint for Australia's Economic Future

The Hon Chris Bowen MP

John Bonython Lecture

The Annual John Bonython
Lecture & CIS Gala Dinner:
What are we Fighting for? Islamism
and the Threat to Liberal Ideas

Dr David Kilcullen

Public Lecture

Rights & Responsibilities 2014: Human Rights Commission National Consultation

Tim Wilson

Roundtable

Religion and Free Society Roundtable

Rev Peter Kurti

Public Lecture

Fatal Shore/Land of Opportunity

Justice Michael Pembroke, Andrew Tink

Public Lecture

The 1840s Battle Against Socialism by Les Economistes

Dr David Hart

Leadership Lunch

The Digital Economy and International Competition: Opportunities for Australia

The Hon Paul Fletcher MP

Conference

Consilium

Varied

Public Lecture

New Threats to Security, Old Threats to Liberty

Professor George Williams, Samantha Yorke

Leadership Lunch

Education, Culture and Family in Remote Indigenous Communities

Warren Mundine

Breakfast

Private CIS Supporter Breakfast with Dr David Kilcullen & Aaron Belin

Dr David Kilcullen, Aaron Belin



Consilium

The Consilium conference is the CIS's invitationonly annual policy conference for the best and brightest Australian and overseas minds in a range of fields including business, politics, policy, research and media.

Torrential rain lashed the InterContinental Sanctuary Cove Resort venue during the 2014 Consilium on 21-23 August 2014, but didn't hamper the flow of ideas as key public policy concerns were debated.

At the gala opening dinner, esteemed journalists Paul Kelly, Tom Switzer and Max Walsh discussed *Politics in Crisis: A Nation in Denial*, with CIS External Relations Manager Cassandra Wilkinson moderating.

The following morning early risers had the pleasure of breakfast with either Professor James Allan, constitution and law expert from the University of Queensland, discussing *Democracy in Decline*, or Kelly O'Dwyer MP and Senator Dean Smith talking about the legacy of famous "Dry" Bert Kelly: *In the Shoes of the Modest Member*.

The opening plenary session looked at the gritty subject of contrarianism and its vital role in intellectual life and public policy discourse. Professor James Allan was back on the stage for this accompanied by Nick Cater, author of *The Lucky Culture* and well-known *The Australian* columnist; Dr Tony Moore, a senior lecturer in

communications and media studies at Monash University and author of *Death or Liberty: Rebels & Radicals Transported to Australia*; and visiting Londoner and vocal anti-prohibitionist Christopher Snowdon, Director of Lifestyle Economics at the Institute of Economic Affairs.

Session Two was a difficult discussion on *Breaking the Silence: The Hard Conversation About Modern Relationships & Child Welfare*, which featured the Hon Kevin Andrews MP, Minister for Social Services; visiting New Yorker Kay Hymowitz from the Manhattan Institute, author of the controversial bestseller *Manning Up: How the Rise of Women has Turned Men into Boys*; high-profile psychologist, columnist and former sex therapist Bettina Arndt; and Dr Jeremy Sammut, CIS Research Fellow in the Social Foundations Program and author of numerous research publications on child welfare and health.

The final session for the day examined the pros, cons and policy challenges of hydraulic fracturing, otherwise known as fracking. NSW Land & Water Commissioner Jock Laurie was joined by NSW Chief Scientist and Engineer Professor Mary O'Kane for the controversial discussion, along with The Hon Peter Reith, Chairman of the Victorian Government's Gas Task Force, and Tas Graham, Global Director of Environment & Society for WorleyParsons Ltd.

The next morning started with breakfast sessions featuring Paul Kelly discussing the ideas behind his new book, *Triumph & Demise: Trouble in the Rudd-Gillard Era*, and Kay Hymowitz discussing *Manning Up*.





Plenary sessions opened that day with How Much Government Do We Really Want to Pay For? Enduring Fiscal Challenges, a challenging conversation about reducing government size and expenditure in keeping with the Centre's ongoing TARGET30 program.

Speakers included Robert Carling, CIS Senior Fellow and a former Treasury official; visiting Washingtonian Dr Daniel Mitchell, a tax reform expert and Senior Fellow with the Cato Institute; The Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP, Member for Fraser and author of Disconnected: Battlers & Billionaires; and Gold Coast local The Hon Steven Ciobo MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer.

Session Five was a riveting, if disturbing, geo-economic session entitled *Dismounting the Dragon: What Happens if China Crashes?* covering the instability of China's economic renaissance. Speakers were Professor Kerry Brown, Executive Director of the China Studies Centre at Sydney University and Associate Fellow at Chatham House; Professor Patrick Chovanec, Managing Director and Chief Strategist at Silvercrest Asset

Management, joining us from New York; Max Walsh AO, Deputy Chairman of Dixon Advisory and economic and political commentator; Dr John Lee, author of *Will China Fail*?; and Michael Hintze, Fellow for Energy Security and Adjunct Associate Professor at the Centre for International Studies at the University of Sydney.

The presciently titled All the Trouble in the World: Societies in Revolt was the final conference session, covering global hotspots where democracy is being trampled. Speakers were the Right Hon Senator David Coltart, human rights lawyer and former Minister of Education, Sport & Culture in Zimbabwe; Spectator Editor Tom Switzer; Dr Lavina Lee, foreign policy and nuclear non-proliferation expert and author of US Hegemony and Legitimacy: Norms, Power and Followership in the Wars on Iraq; and Dr Benjamin Herscovitch, CIS's Beijing-based foreign policy scholar.

Christopher Snowdon closed the event at a gala dinner where he delivered the annual Neville Kennard Address; his rebuttal of the *Spirit Level* theory.



Liberty & Society Student Program

In its eighteenth year the Liberty & Society Student Program is going strong. The weekend conferences continue to help us achieve our goal of developing and supporting a network of young people interested and actively involved in advocating classical liberal ideas.

Over the years we have had 935 people attend an L&S conference and 545 are still in email contact. Many are actively involved in politics, policy work, think tanks and academia and support free market ideals.

The Introductory conference in April included lecturers who were L&S alumni and CIS staff which gives a great continuity to the conference. We were also able to take advantage of Brendan O'Neill, CIS's first Scholar-in-Residence. He spoke about 'Rights and Responsibility' and also joined us on Sunday afternoon to have a discussion with the students about how to sell the message of smaller government and individual freedom.

The conference was rated as excellent to very good by 90% of the students. A couple of sentences from an email to lecturer Professor Jason Potts gives a sense of what the students are able to take away from the events.

'Thanks very much for taking the time to explain some of this to me over the weekend. It's forced me to consider the subject matter of economics in a whole other light, I guess this goes back to the way economics is taught in university and the fact that this was never shown to me as an alternative way of thinking - mainstream economics and indeed Keynesian economics was taught almost as gospel truth.'

The Advanced conference held in September offered L&S alumni who are out in the workforce or doing higher level study a chance to recharge their batteries

and renew a sense of purpose. The conference is more policy oriented and is a call to arms for this group to step up and get involved.

The quality of the speakers was outstanding and made for an exciting and challenging weekend. The speakers included: *AFR* Editor Michael Stutchbury; IPART Chairman Peter Boxall; CIS Executive Director Greg Lindsay; LDP Senator David Leyonhjelm; Ruth Richardson, Director and Public Policy Consultant NZ; Grattan Institute Higher Education Program Director Andrew Norton; *The Australian* Editor-at-Large Paul Kelly; and NSW State MP for Ku-ring-gai and former Premier Barry O'Farrell.

Comments from a couple of the attendees:

'A fantastic opportunity, and I feel very privileged to have attended. I definitely think you've got the formula right with the calibre of attendees, high calibre of speakers, opportunities for input and discussion, and opportunities for networking.' – JJ

'In terms of my future goals and current work, the conference gave me ideas about where to possibly take my career and what would be required for some of these options. My current work involves administering a policy process, and there were many great pieces of knowledge from the presenters about how to go about effecting change and communicating ideas.' – MU





Why tax only ones who pay?

THE AUSTRALIAN | MAY 03, 2014 12:00AM





The Sydney Morning Merald Federal Politics

Federal Politics

Political News Political Opinion The Pulse Breaking Politics Video Cartoons The Zone The Sur You are here: Home > Federal Politics > Political News >

Family payments system needs reform to boost women's participation in workforce: Centre for Independent Studies report



Media and Communications

The Centre for Independent Studies has a longstanding reputation for developing rigorously researched and insightful policy ideas, and assiduously promoting them to both government and the public. Our robust relationship with Australian and international media is key to broadcasting our messages, and our researchers are seen as experts in their fields, frequently being called upon for commentary on the issues of the day.

In the past 12 months, CIS published 196 op-eds, has been cited in 1546 print and digital news stories, researchers have appeared in 369 radio broadcasts and on 108 TV shows, and 16 CIS videos have been featured on digital news mastheads.

Research is developed on the foundation of the CIS's principles and message, and is the main focus for the media and communications work in broadcasting policy proposals and helping raise the CIS profile. Research promotion in 2014 focused on a total of

29 publications, including five Issue Analyses, six Policy Monographs, five Occasional Papers, two Foreign Policy Analyses, five Target 30 papers, two Special Publications, two Policy Forums and two submissions to government.

Another key focus for media liaison is promotion of CIS events, with widespread coverage given in 2014 to a range of high-profile Australian and international speakers for a range of events, including Consilium, several Policy Forums, the second year of Leadership Lunches, and the annual Acton and John Bonython Lectures.

In addition to media coverage, CIS is continually exploring ways to increase its use of direct and electronic communications, including further growing its social media profile, and improving and enhancing its digital newsletters and video and multimedia production.

The CIS website is in advanced planning stages of being migrated to a more secure platform, with the new site architecture and verticals designed to better engage and serve our audience.

196 OP-EDS I,546

369
BROADCASTS

IO8

216,90C

3,200

2,500 TWITTER MENTIONS

Publications

One of the foundations of the CIS's public profile is our high-quality research and special focus publications. From January to December 2014, the CIS published five Issue Analyses, six Policy Monographs, five TARGET30 reports, five Occasional Papers, two Policy Forums, two Foreign Policy Analyses, three editions of Policy magazine, two Submissions and two Special Publications.

Budget 2014-15: Fiscal responsibility or savage cuts?

Alexander Philipatos, Benjamin Herscovitch, Helen Andrews, Jennifer Buckingham, Matthew Taylor, Robert Carling, Simon Cowan, Stephen Kirchner, Steven Schwartz and Trisha Jha



The CIS analyses the Abbott government's crucial first budget, including significant changes in the key policy areas of health, tax measures, welfare and education.

Helen Hughes: A Tribute

Glenys Byrne, Greg Lindsay, Noel Pearson, Ron Duncan and Tony Abbott

The late Helen Hughes was a distinguished economist with a particular focus on development economics and improving the lives of Indigenous Australians living in remote communities. This publication brings together the four speeches from the CIS commemoration ceremony for Helen, a photo montage of her life and works, and a list of her publications for the CIS.

Where Your Tax Dollars Go

Robert Carling

Taxation is imposed through the coercive power of the state. Politicians often speak of "asking" taxpayers to pay more of this or that tax, but in reality they can and do tell citizens

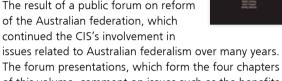


what to pay. It is vital to the functioning of democracy that voters know what their taxes are paying for. Often they don't, because the information is not readily available to them.

Sovereignty, Blame Games and Tony Abbott's New Federalism

Anne Twomey, Jeremy Sammut, **Nick Greiner and Robert Carling**

The result of a public forum on reform of the Australian federation, which continued the CIS's involvement in



of this volume, comment on issues such as the benefits of federalism; the need for clearer lines of responsibility between the Commonwealth and the states; how fiscal federalism should be reformed to strengthen accountability of each level of government in the federation; and the centrality of public hospital funding to the strains on federalism.

Why Jaydon Can't Read: A Forum on Fixing Literacy

Jennifer Buckingham, Justine Ferrari and Tom Alegounarias

Many thousands of Australian students have very low levels of literacy after spending four or more years at

school. The Policy article 'Why Jaydon Can't Read: How Ideology Triumphed Over Evidence in Teaching Reading' concluded that students were not being provided with the most effective evidence-based reading instruction in the early years of school. The article identified inadequate teacher education and ineffective literacy policy as the reasons for this enduring problem. This collection of speeches is from an event held at CIS to further the public debate generated by the Policy article, by the article's lead author, and responses from a leading education journalist and a high-level policy maker.



A Quartet of Freedoms: Freedom of Religion. Speech, Association and Conscience

Jeremy Sammut, Peter Kurti and **Robert Forsyth**

Political Rights, to which Australia is a signatory, gives high prominence to freedom of religion. But religious freedom is under threat in Australia. An aggressive secular culture. combined with the diminished



standing of religious organisations, is putting religious believers under pressure to be silent in the public square. It is necessary now to defend the place of religious liberty in our society and to re-affirm its place alongside the freedoms of speech, association and conscience.

The Enlightenment Made Us

Nick Cater

Examining the Enlightenment ideals that helped shape our uniquely Australian culture, Nick Cater argues that with a focus on progress and practicality, 'the great southern



continent's primitive landscape would be a laboratory for the Enlightenment's bold experiment of applied science'. Unlike America, with its pilgrim devotion to giving thanks to God first and foremost, the pragmatic early colonists of Australia got on with the job of getting on. Cater asks whether that valuable sense of pragmatism still exists in Australia or are we in danger of losing it to political correctness.

The Age of Endarkenment

Brendan O'Neill and Nick Cater

Humans have never had it so good. We are wealthier, happier and more comfortable than any previous generation thanks to the march of science and technology. So why have



we become so gloomy about the modern world and so pessimistic about the future? Why have we convinced ourselves that Earth's bounty is about to run out? Why have we lost faith in the capacity of mankind to find solutions to our problems? In this publication, Nick Cater and Brendan O'Neill discuss what happened to the ideals of the Enlightenment and the spirit of progress that created the modern world.

Public Money: Federal-State Financial Relations and the Constitutional Limits on Spending Public Money

Interest the second seco

Anne Twomey and Robert Carling

This paper explains how those constitutional measures to force the transfer of most of the Commonwealth's revenue to the states were thwarted in the first 10 years of federation and how the High Court supported these developments. But in a series of three cases since 2009, the High Court started to impose constitutional limits on the Commonwealth's executive power, including its power to spend public money. This history provides the essential context for discussion of the reform of federal-state financial relations. Recognition that the High Court is now serious about enforcing limits on the Commonwealth's expenditure powers may be the catalyst for achieving genuine, long-lasting reform. To ensure that such reforms are effective, those developing them must take into account the principles that have recently been applied by the High Court.

States of Debt

Robert Carling

While Commonwealth government debt has been the focus of attention recently, this report takes a broader view by bringing state debt into the picture.



State debt, like that of the federal government, has also risen dramatically since 2007, when net debt was negative. In the six years to 2013, states added \$70 billion to their general government net debt, to reach a positive level of \$43 billion. By 2016–17, combined Commonwealth and state general government (GG) net debt will exceed \$350 billion—almost 20% of GDP, or more meaningfully, more than 50% of general government revenue.

For the broader non-financial public sector (which includes non-financial public corporations), state net debt was much higher at \$127 billion in 2013. Combined with the Commonwealth, total non-financial public sector net debt was \$283 billion, already 50% of the sector's revenue.

At current levels aggregate state debt is manageable, but the upward trend is of concern.

Complex Family Payments: What it Costs the Village to Raise a Child

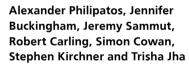
Trisha Jha

In 2013–14, \$32 billion was spent on family payments, amounting to 7.7% of total federal expenditure in that year, and 22% of total federal spending on social security and welfare.

Family Tax Benefits (FTB) and child care fee assistance are the two areas in which spending is the most significant and, in the case of child care assistance, the most likely to grow rapidly if left unchecked. The way programs are designed and the way they overlap leads to perverse incentives that have a negative impact on workforce participation.

Instead of proposing expensive new schemes to mitigate these problems, this report outlines possibilities to fix the existing schemes to facilitate workforce participation.

Submission to the National Commission of Audit





The federal government's Commission of Audit (CoA) was established in 2013 to review the performance and role of government. This publication is an edited version of the CIS submission to the CoA listing practical solutions aimed at cutting government expenditure.

The government should adopt a dual approach to its review of spending. First, spending cuts can save the federal government billions of dollars every year in the short term. Second, government spending growth should be institutionally limited in the longer term to meet Australia's future fiscal challenges.

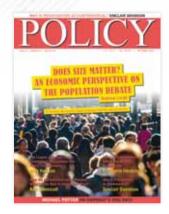
This approach leads to a number of recommendations outlined in the submission.

Policy Magazine

Policy is a quarterly publication of the CIS bringing you new ideas, debates and opinion.

The CIS was delighted to appoint
Helen Andrews, a Policy Analyst at the
CIS since 2013, as the editor of Policy
from 2015. She will be able to draw
upon her years of experience working
for such magazines as National Review
and The American Spectator in the
United States. The innovation of a
digital edition of Policy, launched
by the previous editor, Dr Stephen
Kirchner, will be continued.

Policy is available at cis.org.au and select newsagents.



Vol.30 No.1 Autumn

Does Size Matter? An Economic Perspective on the Population Debate



Vol.30 No.2 Winter

Why the Fiscal Multiplier is Roughly Zero



Vol.30 No.3 Spring

Australia & the Vietnam War

Publications in 2014

Issue Analyses

The New Silence: Family Breakdown and Child Sexual Abuse

Dr Jeremy Sammut

Submissions

Submission to the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Dr Benjamin Herscovitch

Foreign Policy Analyses

Preserving Peace as China Rises I

Dr Benjamin Herscovitch

TARGET30

Submission to the National Commission of Audit

Simon Cowan (ed.)

TARGET30

School Funding on a Budget

Dr Jennifer Buckingham

TARGET30

Withholding Dividends: Better Ways to Make the Public Sector Efficient

Alexander Philipatos

Policy Monographs

The Forgotten Freedom: Threats to Religious Liberty in Australia

Rev Peter Kurti

Issue Analyses

Independent Charities, Independent Regulators: The Future of Not-for-Profit Regulation

Helen Andrews

Issue Analyses

Why Jaydon Can't Read: A Forum on Fixing Literacy

Dr Jennifer Buckingham, Justine Ferrari and Tom Alegounarias

TARGET30

States of Debt

Robert Carling

Issue Analyses

Still Damaging and Disturbing: Australian Child Protection Data and the Need for National Adoption Targets

Dr Jeremy Sammut

Special Publications

Budget 2014-15:
Fiscal Responsibility or Savage Cuts?

Various

Occasional Papers

Catholic Resistance to German State Persecution: Lessons for Modern Australia

Dyson Heydon, Rev Peter Kurti and Bishop Robert Forsyth

TARGET30

Fairer Paid Parental Leave

Matthew Taylor

Special Publications

Where Your Tax Dollars Go

Robert Carling

Policy Monographs

Lessons from Singapore: Opt-Out Health Savings Accounts for Australia

David Gadiel and Dr Jeremy Sammut

Policy Forums

Helen Hughes: A Tribute

Glenys Byrne, Greg Lindsay, Noel Pearson, Ron Duncan and The Hon Tony Abbott MP

Foreign Policy Analyses

Preserving Peace as China Rises II: Preparing for a Post-American Asian Order

Dr Benjamin Herscovitch

Occasional Papers

The Age of Endarkenment

Brendan O'Neill and Nick Cater

Occasional Papers

Public Money: Federal-State Financial Relations and the Constitutional Limits on Spending Public Money

Professor Anne Twomey and Robert Carling

Policy Monographs

Regulating for Quality in Childcare: The Evidence Base

Trisha Jha

Policy Monographs

The Kinship Conundrum: The Impact of Aboriginal Separatism on Indigenous Child Protection

Dr Jeremy Sammut

Issue Analyses

Eight Housing Affordability Myths

Dr Stephen Kirchner

Policy Monographs

Complex Family Payments: What it Costs the Village to Raise a Child

Trisha Jha

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Occasional Papers

The Enlightenment Made Us

Nick Cater

Submissions

Submission to Defence White Paper 2015

Dr Benjamin Herscovitch

Policy Monographs

An Ounce of Prevention?
A Toolkit for Evaluating Preventive
Health Measures

Helen Andrews

DECEMBED



We thank you for your support. It is appreciated by all who work for the CIS and are committed to its mission.

Donations, memberships and other forms of support are the lifeblood of our work, and we thank all our contributors for their continued support.

Please remember that all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

All support makes a difference!

For further information on memberships, donations, bequests or the capital fund please call us on **(02) 9438 4377** or go to **cis.org.au**

Fundraising

Thanks to your support, the CIS will continue to play a critical role in putting the case for continuing reform. It is only because of you and people like you that we can continue to be a truly independent think tank able to fearlessly argue the best ideas for Australia's future.

Donations and Membership

All categories of support have been stable this year despite a difficult market for the charitable sector. Some narrowing of the base has been compensated for by an increase in the value of donations. CIS continued to focus on effective member and donor engagement through events and regular communications. Our End of Financial Year appeal was one of our best.

This year we have initiated some new approaches to growing support. We worked with Directors to create events around issues of high importance to them which would be of interest to their friends, colleagues and communities.

Three lunches were held at various supporters' offices to showcase the work of Dr Jennifer Buckingham and Dr Jeremy Sammut. These were well attended and have been important in growing awareness for both the researchers and the CIS. CIS provided speakers for two corporate retreats this year, with discussions

on the Australian policy environment and how the Centre's work has contributed to a richer environment of opportunities for business, individuals and the community.

Bequests

If you would like to make a tangible and lasting gift, you can support the CIS with a bequest – by a single gift of cash, property, shares or even a percentage of your estate.

The CIS has received ongoing interest in bequests from our membership base and we encourage more supporters to convert that interest into pledges.

For those generous supporters who have donated to the CIS over many years, a bequest is a means of supporting the Centre beyond your current membership and donations structure, and in a way that may not have been possible during one's lifetime.

Capital Fund

The CIS Capital Fund was established in 2006 with a five-year target to raise \$5 million and ensure the long-term future of the Centre. The Centre met its initial target via Capital Fund pledges and the reinvestment of interest accrued. Conservative management of the fund has ensured that our investments have performed well. We continue to welcome contributions to the Capital Fund.

Research Staff

Helen Andrews

Policy Analyst, Social Foundations Program

Helen's first report in 2014 called

Independent Charities, Independent
Regulators: The Future for Not-forProfit Regulation challenged the need for government
regulation of the NFP sector. Helen then moved into
the controversial area of preventative health. She has
recently written a report titled An Ounce of Prevention?

Helen has recently taken over the role of Editor of *POLICY* magazine.

A Toolkit for evaluating Preventive Health Measures.



Research Fellow, Social Foundations Program & Research Manager

Jennifer's main area of work is school education. This year her paper called Why Jaydon Can't Read received wide support. Since this paper the National Curriculum Review has recommended phonetic instruction. Jennifer also contributed a report in the TARGET30 program called School Funding on a Budget.

Jennifer has taken on the role of Research Manager and is overseeing the research publication process.

Robert Carling

Senior Fellow, Economics Program

Robert's expertise is in fiscal policy, taxation and federalism. This year in addition to contributing to TARGET30 reports, Robert has written on state debt, where your tax dollars go and he co-authored a book on federalism with Anne Twomey called *Public Money: Federal-State Financial Relations and the Constitutional Limits of Spending Public Money.*



Simon Cowan

Research Fellow, Economics Program & TARGET30 Program Director

Simon co-ordinates the TARGET30 program which is focused on government spending. He also works on government industry policy and regulation. Simon wrote and co-ordinated the CIS Submission to the National Commission of Audit and our Budget 2014-15 paper. He also appeared at the public hearing of the Commission. Simon is a regular guest on TV including The Drum and Sky News programs.



Research Fellow, Foreign Policy Program

Ben's work has concentrated an China-Australia relations with two reports called *Preserving Peace as China Rises*

1 & 2. Ben has also written submissions on for example the Defence White paper and Foreign Affairs Reference paper. He is a regular commentator in foreign media outlets and is our real foreign correspondent as he is currently based in Beijing.



Senior Fellow, Social Foundations Program

David's area of expertise includes measurement and design in health care and pharmacoeconomics, economic modelling in health, and the application of economic analysis to health care delivery. He has co-authored a report looking at the implications for Australia of the Singapore health savings model.





Trisha Jha

Policy Analyst, Social Policy

Trisha's research on family payments led to a research paper called Complex Family payments: What it Costs the Village to Raise a Child. She also examined the evidence base for the recent National Quality Agenda reforms for child care in a report called Quality in Childcare: The Evidence Base.

Dr Stephen Kirchner

Research Fellow, Economics Program

Stephen's areas of expertise include monetary and fiscal policy, financial markets, trade and investment and Public Choice. Stephen contributed to our TARGET30 papers and wrote *Eight Housing Affordability Myths* which debunked a number of commonly held beliefs about housing. Stephen has left the CIS to pursue a career in the financial market sector.

The Rev. Peter Kurti

Research Fellow, Religion and Civil Society Program

Peter's work considers a liberal approach to religion in civil society and investigating the capacity of that society to maintain freedom for expression of religious values. This year he has written papers called *The Forgotten Freedom: Threats to Religious Liberty in Australia* and co-authored *A Quartet of Freedoms: Freedom of Religion, Speech, Association and Conscience*

Barry Maley

Senior Fellow

Barry has been a significant contributor to the CIS for many years. He has become a wise counsel and great sounding board for the research team.



Alexander Philipatos

Policy Analyst, Economics Program

Alexander worked on industrial relations and labour market policy. Before leaving the CIS mid- year, Alexander produced a report called *Withholding Dividends:*Better ways to make the public sector efficient and contributed to TARGET30 papers.

Dr Jeremy Sammut

Research Fellow, Social Foundations Program

Jeremy's research expertise is in health and Australia's child protection system.

His ground breaking work in child protection has continued in 2014 with *The New Silence: Family Breakdown and Child Sexual Abuse* and *Still Damaging and Disturbing: Australian Child Protection Data and the Need for National Adoption Targets.*Jeremy has also contributed to TARGET30 reports, the Singapore Health System paper and a book on federalism.

Professor Peter Saunders

Senior Fellow

After many years as the Social Foundations Program Director, Peter returned to live in England. He has maintained his relationship with the CIS reviewing reports before they are released and being available for discussion on policy issues.

Professor Steven Schwartz

Senior Fellow

Professor Schwartz recently completed his term as Vice Chancellor of Macquarie University. His expertise is in higher education. Steven contributed to the Budget 2014-15 report.



Matthew Taylor

Research Fellow, Economics Program

Matthew is researching living standards of Australian families by developing micro-simulation models to assess the fiscal and distributional impacts of tax and income support policies. He has written a report called *Fairer Paid Parental Leave* and contributed to the Budget 2014-15 report.

Staff

Greg Lindsay AO

Executive Director and Founder



Jenny Lindsay

General Manager, Student Program Coordinator



Ryan Acosta

Design and Production Manager



Cathleen Ly

Accounts Manager



Meegan Cornforth

Events Director



Bronwyn Nolan

Membership Manager



Kerri Evans

Office Administration



Matthew O'Connell

Multimedia Coordinator



Kiri Goschnick

Executive Assistant and Events Assistant



Karla Pincott

Communications and Editorial Manager



Alicia Kinsey

Office Administration



Cassandra Wilkinson

External Engagement Manager



Staff as at 30 November 2014

During 2014, we bid farewell to Editor Mangai Pitchai, Communications Manager Aimee Cornelius and Executive Assistant Aymi Lee.

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Chris Roberts (Deputy Chairman)

Michael Rennie (Deputy Chairman)

Michael Chaney AO

Dr Peter Dodd

Sir Rod Eddington AO

Dr Peter C Farrell AM

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Professor Ross Parish (1929–2001)

Ian Roach AO (1925-2003)

Professor Peter Saunders

Dr Ben Teh (1941-98)

Accounts

The Centre For Independent Studies Ltd

Income & Expenditure Statement

Ending Financial Years 30/06/2014 and 30/06/2013

INCOME	To June 2014 AUDITED (\$)	To June 2013 AUDITED (\$)
Donations	1,892,162	1,940,221
Book Sales and Subscriptions	240,593	128,012
Consilium/Seminar/Lecture Income	779,779	650,072
Investment & Sundry Income (includes Capital Fund Income)	236,162	245,066
TOTAL INCOME	3,148,696	2,963,371

EXPENSES	To June 2014 AUDITED (\$)	TO JUNE 2013 AUDITED (\$)
Research, Functions, Publishing	535,948	545,059
Fundraising & Development	62,479	95,767
Salaries (includes Research)	1,943,723	1,772,318
Administration & Rent	300,748	306,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,842,898	2,719,144
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	305,798	244,227

Capital Fund as at 30 June 2013	5,022,676
Investment Income	199,716
Capital Fund as at 30 June 2014	5,222,392



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