

Hello, after browsing around from the Sustainable Population Australia website - I found yours and was pleased to see a W. Australian effort to address this issue. Consider this some public comment or feedback I suppose.

Firstly I'm of the considered (and educated) opinion that the "umbrella" issue or primary concern in *all* human environmental / resource use / ecological concerns is, or should be, that of human populations. I personally believe that it is unfortunate that our often sadly outdated and irrational beliefs regarding our "right" to "go forth and multiply" are the basis for unchecked population (and therefore resource consumption) growth.

Australia, and in particular Western Australia, is extremely poor in terms of soil productivity and fresh water. Its ecologies have evolved to be extremely diverse, fragile and specific in form. This has been a biological "reaction" or adaptation to the need to be *extremely* economical and expedient in resource usage.

If we are to have a sustainable future, we need a stabilized population. In fact, it's my view that we would do well to reduce it but I can see the likelihood of that happening by conscious will or choice to be very low.

This is not something that conventional market economists (and those who profit greatest and therefore have the real power in our economic system) want to hear, or if they do - they scoff. That is because more consumption means more sales of all that we consume. More consumers means more consumption. A related issue to this in our state is the revenues collected by our government, particularly from housing/building/land "development", and the concept of "growth" usually meaning other than just *real* economic growth.

I don't want to type forever or bore whoever reads this, my point is obviously that if this sustainability policy programme (or whatever it is) is serious, population and related consumption should be it's chief concern. Thanks for you time.

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"Suppose we've chosen the wrong god. Every time we go to church we're just making him madder and madder!"
- Homer Simpson

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