



LIBERTY *Matters*

NEWSLETTER OF LIBERTY TRUST

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Hello dear friends and a special welcome to our new members. We have been especially thrilled by the parents encouraging and assisting their young children to join. These include families from Te Awamutu, Auckland, and Tauranga who have joined once again for their children, a couple and a young man from Tauranga, a Rotorua family who are sponsoring their two teenagers, and a growing Christchurch family preparing to move to a larger home.



A special thank you to the members who volunteered to host Liberty Trust displays at Promise Keepers events around New Zealand. You have provided the first opportunity for many to hear the principles we teach.

Below is an excerpt from the second report released by the New Zealand Institute on 'Creating An Ownership Society' in New Zealand. You can read more at <http://www.nzinstitute.org>.



*Let your light so
shine before
men, that they
may see your
good works,
and glorify your
Father which is
in heaven.
Mt 5:6*

The benefits of asset ownership

DAVID SKILLING

Many New Zealanders are currently without an ownership stake, and find it difficult to build wealth over their lifetime. The median household wealth in New Zealand is just \$68,300, with 800,000 New Zealanders owning less than \$20,000. And 16% of New Zealand households have negative wealth, where their liabilities exceed their assets.

It is also likely that the difficulties that New Zealanders face with respect to accumulating wealth will become more pronounced. In particular, young New Zealanders face new pressures, like student loan debt and declining home affordability, which constrain their ability to accumulate wealth. This means that there may be an increasing number of New Zealanders without an ownership stake in the economy.

Asset ownership – or the lack of asset ownership – has profound effects on life outcomes for individuals and for the well-being of communities.

Asset ownership gives people a sense of control and independence, allows them to focus on the future to a much greater extent, and is an increasingly important determinant of meaningful participation in society.

Asset ownership has been strongly linked to better health and employment outcomes, quality of life, marital stability, and educational outcomes for children.

WWW.
libertytrust
.org.nz

Our website continues to generate great interest among internet users. During an average month around 1,000 different visitors visit the site at least twice and each view six different pages.

Fifty-five percent of visitors are from New Zealand and twenty eight percent are from the US.

It is exciting that the most popular page (after our home page) is our Bible Study on Finance.

Kelvin's Comment



Kelvin Deal, Chairman

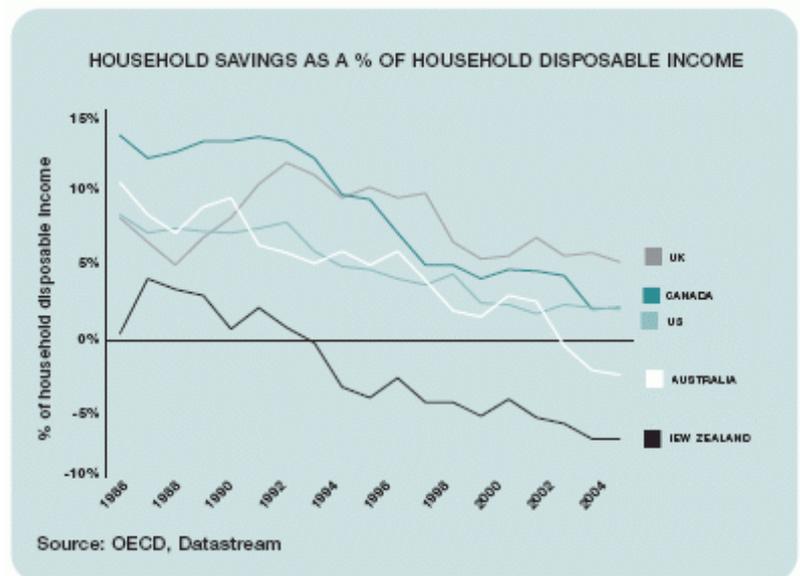
Well it is election time again and we have heard many generous policies from our political leaders. Student loan interest has been one of the hot topics. Liberty Trust has been meeting this year to formulate a plan to refinance student loans of contributors, interest free, but maybe we won't need to!

Young people need to be taught to make wise choices as they will reap what they sow. Today debt has become the easy and acceptable way to get everything we desire. Reputable stores, credit card companies and loan sharks all promote clothing, cell phones, computers, home theatres and overseas holidays, that can be obtained with no deposit and "easy payments", tying the borrower in a cycle of never-ending interest, debt and bondage.

A quick look at the graph below shows that this borrowing trend is affecting societies all over the world—and especially in New Zealand!

The greatest work for Liberty Trust today is to assist to train children and young people to follow God's financial principles and be wise with their time and finances. We can provide a long-term savings goal of home ownership that will survive the challenges of adolescence, social maturity, choice of career/ tertiary education, OE possibilities, etc.

A financial goal with a Christian purpose will provide a great stabilizing influence during this period of rapid change in their lives.



God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end ... [and] through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

Hebrews 6:10-12

Our original pioneers began Liberty Trust from scratch, following God's principles in faith. Due to their diligence we have grown and are now able to provide a great blessing to many people. Our pioneers have also seen tremendous fruit from their labours and many are now starting new memberships for their families. Their children will also learning the discipline and rewards of helping others and saving for their future. They won't have to wait for an interest free mortgage like their parents did. The loan is likely to be ready before they are!

We are pleased to enclose a leaflet with some facts, Scriptures and advice to help you train your children in God's principles so they can fulfill all that God has for them. If you'd like extra copies for your friends, family and church please give us a call on 0800 Lib Trust after hours or send an email to info@libertytrust.org.nz.

