Please find below my letter to a Journalist at the Australian Newspaper which is in response to an article to be found on page five of the August the 29th Issue which exemplifies the concerns expressed in my original submission that Media reporting and certain submitters do not provide all details regarding the entitlements already available to unemployed persons and particularly families that exceed the singles entitlement . If possible I would appreciate if this email and the letter to The Australian be attached to my original submission.

Thank you Hon Wilson Tuckey

----- Original Message -----
From: Wilson Tuckey
Cc: letters@theaustralian.com.au
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2012 3:31 PM
Subject: Newstart benefits

I refer to your article regarding the Colvin Family Whilst I am not aware of the Colvin's personal arrangements or how they are presenting themselves to Centre Link but their circumstances as you have quoted do not correctly describe the welfare entitlements of a family of five with three children under five years of age.

I am advised that the gross entitlements of such a statistical family would be approx. $1500.00 per fortnight not including the rental subsidy which is not available to the occupants of Public Housing.

I was recently reported in your paper which covered my submission to the Senate Committee making exactly this point that media coverage and certain other submissions mislead when they seek to compare only the singles rate for New start with the Minimum Wage because New start increases for families where both partners are unemployed and for dependant children but the minimum wage does not and might attract income tax.

As you will note I have copied this email to your letters editor in the hope that you might conduct additional research and collectively correct this statistical aberration I am also forwarding this letter as an attachment to a further submission to the Senate Committee.

The Hon Wilson Tuckey