



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY
Ms Leanne Castley MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA

Submission Cover sheet

Inquiry into Housing and Rental Affordability

Submission number: 010

Date authorised for publication: 11 August 2022

Inquiry into Housing and Rental Affordability

As a government employee with steady, fulltime employment. I would think that it would be possible for me to enjoy the freedom of an apartment to myself. I did not consider myself in the vulnerable category, until reading an address to the community housing industry, from 2018 from Bill Shorten, who spoke about one of those vulnerable categories being people who spend 30% of their wage on rent.

I did the calculations. 35% of my wage goes on rent. The land lord is asking for an increase, above CPI, that will bring it to 40% of my wage if I am unsuccessful with the tribunal.

I have waited over a month for any kind of update on my dryer being broken.

I have a man across the road who randomly yells into the street, while trying to calm myself with my own complex mental issues.

Despite all of this, I am stuck. The land lord knows that I have nowhere else to go, and that the lack of housing opportunities means he has no "skin in the game" so to speak.

I have heard of people being priced out of Canberra.

I wanted to have a family here. But at this rate, I'll have to leave Canberra. I can no longer recommend this as a place for people to look for work, have a strong community, and a safe place to live.

The truth of the matter is that none of us are 'safe' here, as we are being priced out of our own community. I truly weep for the future of this city. And implore you to do all within your power, to increase the availability of housing, so that property owners are not in the position to state whatever terms they decide on a whim, at the expense of what I used to consider my home.