

STRENGTH IN DEFENCE, ECONOMY, FAMILY



Tom Playford's South Australia

Many South Australians can probably remember the time when more than a dozen of Australia's top 100 listed companies had their head offices in Adelaide - News Ltd, Fauldings, Southcorp, Elders, Normandy Mining, Adelaide Bank, Adelaide Brighton, Standard Chartered Finance to name just a few. Today there's just one - Santos (and even Santos seems to be on borrowed time).

At the time of Federation, South Australia led the constitutional debates and had an influential hand in shaping the new Commonwealth of Australia. For decades after, Adelaide was Australia's Number 3 city - bigger and more prosperous than either Brisbane or Perth.

Led by Tom Playford, South Australia prospered under the principle of 'cheap land, cheap power, cheap water, and cheap labour'. Wages were lower than in Sydney and Melbourne, but despite the lower pay packets, South Australians' quality of life and standard of living were higher than their interstate counterparts.

Competitive Federalism

It was an example of genuine competitive federalism - not the pseudo competitive federalism of today in which state governments try to outdo each other enticing companies to set up in their states.

Since those halcyon days, South Australia has lost each of the competitive edges that made it prosperous.

First to go was cheap land - thanks to urban planning controls - then water, then centralised wage fixing (waiters, nurses, and factory workers across Australia all had to get the same pay).

As for power prices, they are now not just the highest in Australia, but some of the highest in the world.

The South Australian premier folded like pack of cards over nuclear power. The idea that he and his Labor colleagues would take on the urban planners, water barons and unions to make SA competitive again is farcical.

Let's Make South Australia Great Again!

If you are not happy with the current direction of the South Australian economy, then **please go to www.australianfamilyparty.org.au and click Join.**



**STRONG DEFENCE
STRONG ECONOMY
STRONG FAMILIES**



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On 1 July 2014, my first day as a Senator, Adelaide's Advertiser newspaper published an opinion piece I had submitted titled, Shedding the 'Bludger State' tag, in which I implored the SA State Government to stop bludging on the other states and start standing on its own two feet. Then Premier Jay Weatherill responded by calling me 'an enemy of the state'.