**CANADA CHILD BENEFITS COMMENTS 2**

**Negative comments (most were negative)**

-reward people who should not have big families to have big families and not work, while hard working Canadians are told to pay for it. At $6,000 annual tax free one can’t afford to not have kids. Many people believe having kids is some sort of right, in the eyes of the intelligent, it is nothing more than child abuse and trying to use kids as some sort of (revenue). Religious beliefs, "family values," no access to free contraception, pressure from spouse or parents, and lack of sex education, to name but a few of the reasons. Because they're children to some, and revenue tools to others

-anyone who thinks that all this money will actually be spent on children is also being incredibly naïve. Money will be spent on alcohol, tobacco, lotteries, etc.

**Not happy with amounts received between new Liberal child benefits and old Conservative benefits or it is not enough**

-some families will be getting less under this scheme than they did under the UCCB (Conservative program).

-why do people have such large families knowing already they will be raised in poverty

-you think it only costs $6,000 per child to raise them?

-Income splitting under Conservatives is bad policy. It discriminates against single, widowed and divorced (and spouses earning equal incomes). Irony families bashing not only themselves, but also singles

**Positive comments (very few)**

-This program will help the working poor greatly. Many of these families, as with most families today, have three children or less. Now the less fortunate families will be more able to feed their kids, enroll them in sports, or save for college. There is too much poverty in Canada.

-"Forty per cent of all children currently living in poverty will be lifted out of poverty, which will lead to the lowest poverty rate among children ever in Canada. It will also lead to the most significant fall in child poverty ever in our country," he says. "So it's a huge impact, a transformation in the lives of families of almost six million children in Canada." Sounds good to me. Thank you, Justin, for helping our nation’s children. I look forward for voting for you again, you are doing a great job.

**Bashing of political parties (Liberals versus Conservatives)**

-blaming Liberals, but Conservatives brought in program first in order to get votes. Some complaints saying they are receiving less under Liberal program than Conservative program.

**Worried about future debt generated by benefits**

-worry about how much future debt this will create, incredibly expensive and totally unaffordable. Once it is given it cannot be taken away because of sense of entitlement

**Many comments bashing Ava and where is the father of these children**

-He should be providing child support. Response to this-sometimes one can’t from the present known what will happen in future regarding bad times, others are wondering if there was more than one father. Example of responses to this negativity - by the look of all these anti poor comments on here, we have a lot of people posting who can’t seem to count their blessings...many unhappy complaints, hardly any comments that families are happy for the benefits they have received.

-Why bother presenting this person's (Ava) situation without presenting this person's whole situation, and why is it that the term "single parent" has become some sort of virtuous status within the left wing lexicon?

-Well, that payment for Ms. Williams, by my math, will be 4 x 5,400 = $21,600 annually, tax free, simply for having 4 kids; about $4000 more than I make in pension and CPP annually, that is taxable.. WOW! There are no words!!!

**Other programs would be more beneficial than the child benefit program**

-If businesses in Canada would hire people and pay them a living wage and if Canadians could find jobs that pay a living wage,that would help fight poverty in Canada and probably save Canadian governments a lot of money. Reader response to this -Businesses do hire people, and they do pay a living wage.

-What people need to do is to improve their education, improve their work ethic etc to get higher paying jobs. Response to this-Unfortunately, that is becoming a thing of the past. Even professional positions are being shipped overseas where employees will work for peanuts, have no safety legislation, no environmental legislation, not minimum standards legislation

**Program will be abused**

-benefit should not be to bank accounts, but given in form of food stamps. direct payment for rent, etc. Reader response to this-..Food Stamps is a good idea but some businesses will allow them to buy what they want with them...and it will not always be groceries. Money will be spent on parents, not the children. Reader response-Some people will abuse any program you bring out but do you cancel it and punish everyone because it isn't perfect? I don't think so. Most parents live for their children and a hand up will make a huge difference to them. Many people in all walks of life abuse government, rich and poor. Reader Response -There are all kinds of valid reasons people are poor. Its very complicated. You might not have noticed, but good quality jobs are in short supply , so is affordable housing.

-’baby bonuses’ have been in place for many years

**Benefits given for children but seniors and disabled receive much less**

-the meantime our seniors and disabled get a 1% increase in the assistance. To help keep up with the cost of living ? Reader response to this-Exactly. Notice how people not in families and not in the "middle class and those working hard to join it" never seem to factor into the Liberals' sunny promises? In BC, disabled people live on $906 a month.

-What about disabled and seniors that are living in poverty. I am disabled and live on about $13000.00 yearly and still have to pay federal tax.I can't afford proper food and meat is a rarity just because I cannot afford it. We are living month to month while the high income people receiving the child credit are probably buying t-bone steaks for the barbecue. It just is not fair.

-You know we have lots of disabled and mentally ill people in the country right? They can't work.

-seniors left behind? they eat less, need less money can get free housing, free health care.. free money... organized bingo... it can’t get any better.

-Most children have parents to provide for them. Most seniors have no one. Most seniors are not well off like the media seems to portray. A lot of seniors do without food to buy their meds or do without life saving meds for food. That credit should be for seniors with low income as well.

-Well seniors had their whole lives to prepare for retirement. Who's fault is that?

**Divorce and death of one parent as well as other causes have impact on poverty**

-Divorce or the death of one parent can have significant economic impact and that is a legitimate reason to take more than one gives in taxes. (life insurance and divorce insurance compulsory)

-Accidents happen leading to kids that were never planned. Marriages break up, spouses die, jobs are lost. There are a huge number of scenarios in which someone that may have had it made no longer does

-People make plans based on the info and situation at hand. Sometimes those circumstances change and people find themselves living in poverty. Very few people choose to live in poverty, and even fewer would choose it for their children.

**Child benefits not only on federal level, but also provincial level**

-Large families getting $40K or $50K TAX FREE from the government should continue to receive income assistance and subsidized housing from the provincial taxpayer too? I wonder where all the money will come from to pay for this 'generosity'.

**In addition to benefits, should also be teaching budgeting and financial responsibility**

-Teach the youth about real life experiences, Jobs, income, family, bills, taxes, money, insurance, savings, Mortgage, rent. Upkeep of rental or home, repairs to home. Health and nutrition, vechicle. Understand the difference between NEED and WANT. Learn how to care for babies and young children. Teach the youth the skills they need so they can make better choices in life.

**Immigrants** - many comments about immigrants receiving these benefits, many have large families

**Education** -To fight poverty I would rather parents receive free (or close to) training or education to better themselves instead of a monthly handout.

**Advantages of Child Benefits -** As for your example of someone quitting their job - in that case it isn't really a bad thing. Mom will stay at home with her young kids and they'll save money on daycare. Dad will be working fewer hours or closer to home. They'll still have the same money to spend and now there will be another decent job available to someone else. Try raising a family when both of you work full time at jobs you have to commute to. Any wonder why Canadians don't have enough kids that we rely heavily on immigration to keep our economy going?.

-Back to a one worker family model is 40 years overdue.

-So you think it is better that the wife work for $15,000 a year and then they spend $40,000 per year on daycare instead of the mother saving $40,000 and being home to parent?

-this benefit helps those that need it, unlike the Conservative's income splitting, TSFAs and 'pooled pension plans'

**Benefit programs - have lots of other programs in addition to child benefit**

-People said similar things when past social programs were rolled out and yet here we are. Publicly funded health care, publicly funded OAS, worker/employer funded CPP, the list goes on. Throughout the decades, the greedy and the ideologues have railed against these but here we are, going on 150 years and arguably the best, most livable country on earth. No assistance for health care, subsidized education costs, free public school education, roadways, those selfless individuals serving you your coffee and fast food. You did it all by yourself eh?

-we've free public education that includes apprenticeship placements. We've got publicly funded career training programs that even provide wages. What we also have is the understanding that sometimes the poor and middle class have children and that many of them, even possessing a well developed sense of frugality, will descend into crushing household debt purchasing even just essential goods.

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**Eighteen years a long time for benefits**

-A hand up, no problem. Income support for 18 years? No thanks.

**Misconceptions about what is benefit versus welfare**

-Funny how you consider the taxpayer money that you get as "hard earned", but the money others get as "welfare". The fact is that Canadians care about children, including your child, and this program will help a lot of children.

**In addition to benefits, income taxes also cut for middle class**

-"Income taxes for middle wage earners has been lowered by 1.5 %"

Incorrect, since the tax reduction only reaches the full 1.5% at just under $90,000.

This was a tax cut to upper income (not top income) earners.

End of post