

## **“Yes” Case – Daylight Saving Referendum**

Vote “Yes” for more family time in the evening.

Vote “Yes” for a more active and leisurely lifestyle.

Vote “Yes” to support small business and the jobs they create.

### **Vote “Yes” to Support Families**

The “Yes” case is not very complex and does not require pages and pages of arguments .

Quite simply daylight saving is all about families being able to spend quality time outdoors together after work.

West Australians are now working longer days than ever before , greatly reducing the chance we have to enjoy the great outdoors at the end of the day. Daylight saving gives us the opportunity to reverse that trend.

It is potentially the glue that can bond families back together and minimises our unhealthy reliance on the TV or the internet as our primary sources of entertainment.

Families from all over the State have embraced daylight saving by flocking to our parks , beaches and bushlands to enjoy some quality active time together in the early evening .

Others are simply getting outdoors at home to play with the kids or water the garden or to complete chores that would normally only be done on the weekend.

### **The Arguments for Families by Families**

Mr D. Skinner, father of five children from South Perth said *“We’re a pretty active family and we do a lot of stuff with the kids outdoors, like cricket, soccer, swimming and going to the beach. I usually work until 6pm, and without daylight saving, I couldn’t be doing too many activities with the kids – it extends the opportunity to spend more time being active together.”*

Mrs A.Hill from The Vines said *“We were always going somewhere after work when daylight saving was on . We don’t live near the beach so that isn’t really an option for us but we loved getting down to our local park to throw the ball for the dog . The great thing about Daylight Saving was that our kids hardly ever went near the TV or the internet after school because we were always out doing something as a family .”*

Mr G. Preston from Manning said *“Daylight saving was so good for our family because when I got home from work I went straight outside to mow the lawns or do the chores that I would normally do on the weekend . Our weekends were totally free and we were going to places and doing things that we never had time to do before .”*

Mrs L Douth from Kalgoorlie said *“I have a teenager who likes to move around from friend’s house to friend’s house at the end of the day . Sometimes he might stay late and I feel that it is just so much safer for him to be coming home with Daylight Saving because it is still light outside .*

Mr A. Moffat from Bicton said *“We have young kids and they wake up pretty much when the sun comes up and of course the first thing they do is wake me up . I love daylight saving because the sun comes up an hour later which means I get an extra hour to sleep in before the kids wake me up .”*

### **Vote “Yes” for a more active and leisurely lifestyle.**

Western Australia’s unique climate provides many wonderful opportunities for people to enjoy healthy outdoor pursuits in the early evening with the extra hour of daylight that comes with daylight saving.

WA boasts some of the best natural assets of any state in any country anywhere around the world .

Our parks are pristine, our beaches are first class, our bushlands are unique and it’s a true measure of West Australian spirit to see thousands of families out enjoying these natural assets after work during daylight saving .

Studies by both the WA Health Department and the Premier’s Physical Activity Task Force showed a net increase in physical activity with daylight saving. In a community concerned at falling levels of physical activity and growing obesity, any increased physical activity due to daylight saving is most welcome.

## **Some Country People Have Embraced Daylight Saving**

There has been a significant shift in the attitude of country people in particular towards daylight saving and even some members of the farming community are now embracing it .

For example :

*"I support it. My wife and I work and we like to get home and have a wander around the block. We like to get a bit of exercise at the end of the day and get the kinks out....to be honest; I just don't see what all the fuss is about."*

**Andy McMillan, Chief Executive, WA Farmers Federation, Sunday Times 29<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

Even the Leader of the National Party, Brendan Grylls has in the past expressed strong support for Daylight Saving :

*"If I was voting for myself I'd vote for it. My age demographic is strong supporters of it because more leisure time after work is something all my peers would support."*

**Brendan Grylls, Leader of the National Party Sunday Times, December 2005**

In some parts of regional Western Australia the sun comes up as early as around 4.40am in the morning. With daylight saving this becomes 5.40 am with dawn even earlier.

Does anybody seriously argue that the sun should come up at 4.40am whilst most of us are still sleeping?

## **Vote "Yes" to support small business and the jobs they create.**

Many West Australian small businesses already face a disadvantage in competing with and dealing with businesses located in the Eastern states .

When WA small business people arrive at work at 9am they are frequently frustrated to find that their eastern states supplier or customer has gone to lunch because it is midday over there without daylight saving.

If they come back from their own lunch break at around 2pm they are once again thwarted because their eastern states counterparts are about to hit the freeway on their way home as it is five o'clock in the east without daylight saving .

Malz Motoring and Leisure Zone owner Ray Della-Polina said *“It mightn’t sound a lot, but that one hour makes a significant difference, the hour difference basically reduces the availability for contact with your eastern states suppliers, it cuts it in half and makes things difficult,”*

*“Anything that puts imposts on business, or makes business more difficult to manage, naturally it must have effect on profits, and must have an effect on the level of service you can provide your customers,”* said Mr Della-Polina.

These are really difficult times for small business and we should not be putting more obstacles in the way of job creation and business opportunities.

Small business overwhelmingly needs daylight saving to make it easier to communicate with their clients and suppliers in other states. While WA business has important dealings with Asia the overwhelming volume of business to business contacts here in WA are with other Australian states.

Daylight saving minimises the disruption to the business connections between WA and the eastern states. A one hour time difference with China is not a problem for business but three hours difference with the east is impossible given that a lot of small businesses in WA actually draw their stock from the Eastern States.

Our small business community are currently suffering from the consequences of the world financial crises and are already laying off employees.

You have it within your power to remove just one hurdle from their path by voting yes to daylight saving .

## **Still Undecided?**

Families and small business are the backbone of our community and a vote for daylight saving is a vote for them.

If you are still undecided about daylight saving then we ask that you consider the plight of young families who are finding it increasingly difficult to spend any quality time together these days .

They are desperate for the opportunity to interact more with each other in a meaningful way at the end of what has now become a very long working day and daylight saving provides that opportunity for them.

As a secondary consideration we ask that you remove just one obstacle from the path of our small business community who are now caught firmly in the grip of the Global Economic Recession.

Our small businesses need daylight saving and you can deliver it for them.

While some people have genuine personal reasons for not liking daylight saving, there is no basis for the outlandish statements made against it by some supporters of the no case.

Daylight saving in Western Australia has not caused any significant or properly researched adverse outcomes for water consumption, electricity usage or the number of road crashes.

### **It's Time to Vote**

On 16 May West Australians will be asked to make a decision that will shape our state's future social, business and economic development. This referendum is the last opportunity for Western Australia to say "Yes" to daylight saving.

Make no mistake . It's now or never !

Lets make history – Vote "Yes" for daylight saving on May 16th .

Vote "Yes"to support families and small business.