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**From:** Rachel Fogarty <web@greens.org.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 23 April 2019 10:16 PM  
**To:** recyclinginquiry  
**Subject:** Recycling & Poor People

RE: INQUIRY INTO RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Firstly I endorse the 3 proposed changes:

Investing in a Victorian recycling industry

Establishing a 10c refund on bottles and cans

Banning unnecessary single-use plastics.

What needs to be recognized is the social impact of the current government policy regarding recycling which is apparently to duckshove the burden of dealing with rubbish and unsustainably move our junk around the planet instead.

Poor people are often more environmentally conscious than wealthier people and this is often a budgetary decision. We consume less because we can afford less. But I know how much effort my low income community goes to in order to recycle. My family, friends and peers, including myself, have all changed our weekly shop to avoid single use plastics and to recycle as mindfully as possible. This requires effort in washing recyclables, sorting them and making sure you use the 3 bins in conjunction so you have minimal waste; ensuring you take your batteries to a designated site, disposing of motor oil properly, taking hard rubbish to the tip. This costs money and the return we expect is our rubbish is being sustainably dealt with. Currently we are being utterly failed by the government in making good on this environmental investment its citizens are financially sacrificing to make.

Incentivise recycling. Ban big companies from using it. Run community programs where people GET PAID to tidy up high rubbish areas such as parks, cbd etc and not Work for the Dole that's a slave labour scam on par with ruining the environment.

Ban plastic bags at supermarkets.

Ban single use plastic wrapping on fruit and veg.

Ban straws and plastic cutlery/crockery.

Ban plastic bottles.

Thank you

-- Rachel Fogarty  
[REDACTED]

I'm happy for my submission and details to be made public.