



Why does your
Family pay an
extra €5,460 in
tax every year?



Family *First*

If you're a single-income family - a family with only one wage - the State makes you pay up to €5,460 extra in taxes every year. This is what they call tax individualisation.

That's a huge amount of money - enough to pay a mortgage for four or five months! But now they want you to pay even more.

Why Do You Pay Extra Tax?

The State taxes your family more just because you care for your children at home. Employers want labour. And the State wants mothers to take up paid employment because the EU wants more women in the workforce. Tax individualisation is used to punish families who don't comply.

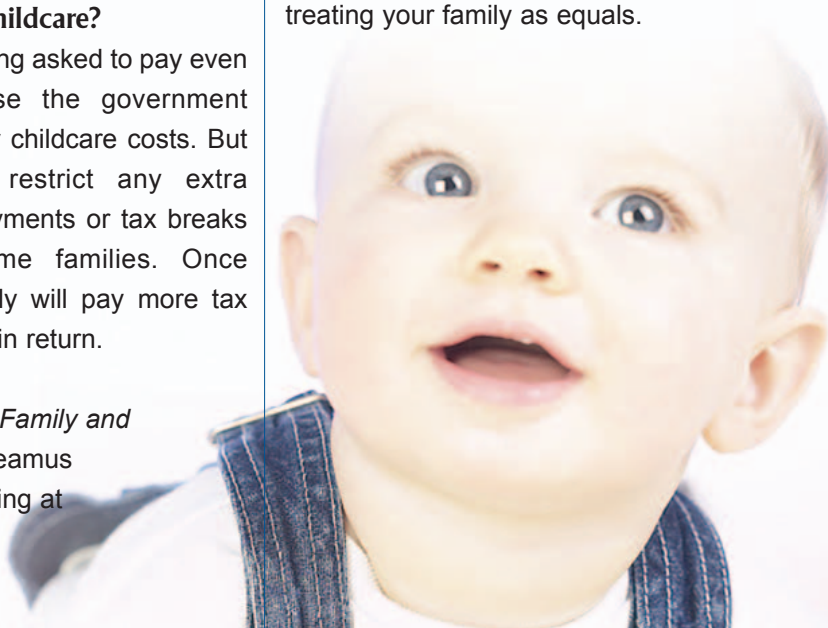
Who Pays for Childcare?

Now you are being asked to pay even more - because the government wants to pay for childcare costs. But they want to restrict any extra child benefit payments or tax breaks to double-income families. Once again your family will pay more tax and get nothing in return.

The *Minister for Family and Social Affairs*, Seamus Brennan, is looking at

6 options to help pay for the cost of caring for children. But most of those options only help parents whose children are cared for by childminders or creches. **It's as if your children simply don't exist!**

Your taxes have already paid €500 million towards commercial childcare. It's about time the State started treating your family as equals.



For more Information, Log onto

The Value of Your Family

Children are the future tax-payers of the Nation. Your family is essential and invaluable.

All across Europe, falling birth rates are causing a crisis. Fewer people mean smaller markets, less growth and less taxpayers.

But instead of supporting and encouraging families, the Irish government wants them to pay more taxes! Minister Brennan should insist that:

- Tax individualisation is scrapped,
- A child tax credit is re-introduced,
- Child benefit is increased - €100 per week per child - is paid to all families
- Affordable housing is a government priority.

Mother is Best

2005 CSO figures show that 69% of mothers - as well as some fathers - are at home full-time or part-time. 544,600 of Irish women and men are on full-time home duties. Another 261,000 women work part-time, often because crippling mortgages give them no other choice.

Full-time mothers are workers. The vital importance of their work must be recognised by the State.

All the major studies have found that children who are looked after by their mothers do significantly better in social and emotional development than those looked after by others.

Our politicians are ignoring more than 1.1 million voters. It's about time you made your voice heard for



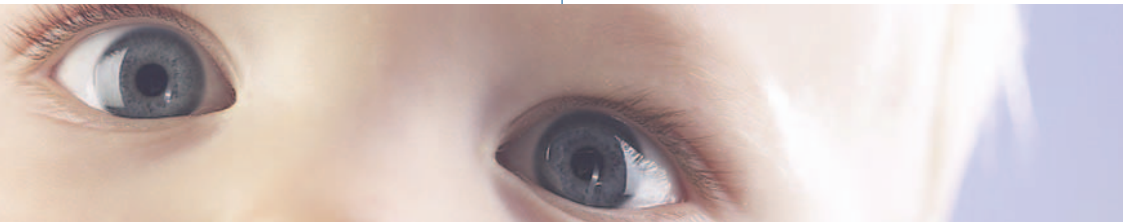
What's Best For Families

Families in Ireland need support and Minister Brennan must ensure that the children and the families of the nation are treated equally.

Single-income families are asking why they are paying more taxes and why they should carry the cost of a State benefit that ignores their chil-

dren, and treats the parent at home as a second-class citizen.

The only option that is acceptable to all families is universal treatment of children. The State should make the same payment, or grant the same tax relief, to all families for their children, irrespective of how many parents are in paid employment.



What You Can Do

Minister Brennan is making a decision on State payments to help with the cost of caring for children RIGHT NOW.

You need to act today!

1. Call the Minister on (01) 6183205 / (01) 2957171 and tell him that the only acceptable option is one that treats families equally. The State should make the same payment, or grant the same tax relief, to all families for their children, irrespective of

how many parents are in paid employment.

2. Tell him you also want tax individualisation scrapped.

3. Call **Family First** on 01 8730465 for a lobbying submission you can send to Seamus Brennan, and for more information.

4. Log onto : **www.familyfirstireland.org** to lobby the Minister online and to get more information.



Family First

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