

Calling YOU to take action

We believe that a just and compassionate society can be achieved by more action to utilise our nation's prosperity responsibly to eliminate poverty.

In 1998 NZCCSS released a series of leaflets titled “Myths About Poverty” to help dismiss false perceptions of what it means to be poor in this country. In 2009 we have now published our second “[The Facts About Poverty](#)”. We call on you to become a champion of the poor in Aotearoa New Zealand by learning more about those facts.

We believe that a just and compassionate society can be achieved by more action to provide older people with a range of choices for their homes, support and lifestyle.

Five things YOU can do:

Don't forget to bookmark our website, www.justiceandcompassion.org.nz for links to useful resources and pass the address on to family and friends. Please also visit our [Resourcessection](#) for relevant links to other websites.

What choices will we have as we get older?

1. Reflect on the impact of ageing on your life, your family and your friends – how will you ensure your quality of life as an older person?
2. Within your community seek and discuss opinions about the challenges of ageing and consider responses. Those responses might include asking what kinds of services or support are missing for older people in your community or volunteering your time to visit people who are receiving care but who are isolated from family and friends.
3. Invite someone from a local service (e.g. a rest home or a home help service near to you) to talk with your congregation or group about the challenges that older people face.
 - Visit our [Resourcessection](#) for links to websites.
4. Think hard about political policy statements – what questions can you put to your local politicians and candidates about their policies? Do they have specific policies to address fundamental changes brought about by an ageing population? What steps will they introduce to provide a range of choices for older people? How will services be funded?
 - See also: <http://theyworkforyou.co.nz>
5. Become a champion for older people in your community by growing your own and your family's awareness of social justice issues.
 - Read our article: [What is social justice?](#)

We believe that a just and compassionate society can be achieved by more action to support families and communities in nurturing and protecting our children as taonga.

Are we looking after our children?

1. Reflect on times in your own family life when someone has offered you a helping hand and it has made all the difference.
2. Seek ways, through your Church community or as an individual, that you can do something to help families to treasure their children. This might include - supporting activities at a [lower decile](#) school in [your area](#), volunteering your time to help with some form of family support or youth work, or being a good friend to families who may be isolated or in poverty.
3. Invite someone from a local social service provider to talk to your Church about the challenges confronting families.
 - Visit our [Resourcesection](#) for links to websites.
4. Think hard about political policy statements – what questions can you put to your local politicians and candidates about their policies? Do they have explicit policies about lifting children out of poverty? Do they have clear policies about provision of social services to help children in need?
 - See also: <http://theyworkforyou.co.nz>
5. Become a champion for vulnerable children in your community by growing your own and your family's awareness of social justice issues.
 - Read our article: [What is social justice?](#)

We welcome your ideas and suggestions about issues affecting families and children. If you'd like us to publicise your initiatives let us know. The postal address for NZCCSS is PO Box 12-090, Thorndon, Wellington or email us at info@justiceandcompassion.org.nz