

National child care program provides proper nurturing to future citizens [CA] ^[1]

Letter to the Editor

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See text below.

EXCERPTS

I read your article in this evening's paper regarding the platforms of our local candidates with interest, and would like to comment on the child care issues that have been raised.

I have had the pleasure of meeting [Conservative Party candidate] Daryl Kramp, and have been quite impressed by his sincerity and clear regard for his own family and for the families of his constituents. However, I believe he is quite incorrect in supporting his party's proposed plan for a national child care policy.

My husband and I have three children who are 23, 18 and 3 years of age, so I do consider myself to be somewhat of an expert.

What we really need is standardized care that is run according to a set of standard principles, and that will provide dependable and stimulating care to children while their parents work. This is only achievable through a national strategy of licensed child care spaces.

I could provide Kramp with hours of first-hand accounts of the difficulties of finding quality care.

This is not an issue particular to this area, it is a national problem. There is simply no present perception of the right that children have to quality care that provides a stimulating and safe environment.

Providing a lump sum of \$100 per month will do nothing to create or support a national child care strategy. In this city the most any parent would receive for their \$100 is about three days of care.

Our children are our future, and they deserve to be treasured and nurtured as they begin their journey to productive adulthood.

Is a national child care strategy not something that they deserve to have?

- reprinted from the Belleville Intelligencer

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