***Should New Zealand’s America’s Cup team receive $36 Million, when we are in debt?***

*We are constantly being told that New Zealanders need to pay off their National debt, so why is the Government giving $36 million to our 2013 America’s Cup team? Surely there are more important situations that would benefit from that much money? I believe that $36 million is way too much money, just for some boat races. In the following paragraphs, I will try to persuade you that this money could be of greater benefit to New Zealand, as a whole, (specifically to rebuild Christchurch) to boost the economy, for the benefit of all, rather than a few situations, why the money should be fairly given to other sporting teams, and lastly, paying off the National debt, which should be one of the very first priorities, of the New Zealand Government.,*

*Firstly, there are large numbers of families in New Zealand, that are struggling to make ends meet, unable to feed and clothe their family, and the gap between their income and expenses is growing wider. The next and main thing is that the Central Business District (CBD) of Christchurch, is still a danger zone and needs to be rebuild, almost immediately, as the people of Christchurch would still be upset, by the loss of life and some of their homes, and would want to return to their normal lives, or heal from the death of loved ones, and the 181 people who were killed during the earthquake, as of the 3rd of May. There are also many more important situations that could benefit, from this much money.*

*Why should the America’s Cup team get all of the money? Why not other sporting teams like the Silver Ferns, or NZ Breakers? Or even more importantly, the All Blacks, to help prepare for the RWC and to make sure of the completion of the official sites of the RWC. I don’t think it is very fair that one of the least popular sports gets all that money. I think that they can get sponsors instead of getting the Government paying for the transport of the boat, and all the rest of the fees. Like the netball teams, getting sponsors, so the money can be more continuous.*

*The last paragraph is all about the National Debt. We are in debt of about $5.3 million in foreign amounts, and we give $36 million to our America’s Cup team?! How about that for wasting money! We owe so much money, that it should go towards the National Debt. In 2016 and 2017 it is predicted that the New Zealand Government will be in debt of $73.4 billion. And who, you may ask, does this money, we owe, go to? Well, there are a lot of countries that are letting us borrow money, but we are struggling to keep a promise, by having a desperate search around for this money. What were they thinking!? Seriously. They should consider paying back the debt, instead of holding it off, and wasting money during holding it off. That is hardly accurate, by giving $36 million over to a yachting team that are going into this competition in 2013, in San Francisco, America.*

*So, do you think the Government give away that much money, when people are in need of some support and sometimes only money can bring that support, to low income families, the people of Christchurch, and starving people? In this essay, I have tried to persuade about the money being of better use to New Zealand, as a whole, about evenly giving the money to different sports team and events, and the National Debt that we owe to a lot of countries, after borrowing from them. Now do you the Government, by giving the money to an un-beneficial cause, which, in this case, is the America’s Cup team.*

*By Sarah Thrupp*

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