

"The vast majority of \$1.69 billion of unpaid child support is owed by fathers".^[1]



References:

[1] According to the Department for Social Services, as at June 2022 there was around \$1.69 billion in child support debt outstanding from 243,031 individuals (this data only relates to child support collect cases). Source: Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Estimates, Official Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, 24.

[2] The selection of illustrative examples are informed by: Cook, K., Goodall, Z., McLaren, J., Edward, T. (2019). Debts and Disappointment: Mothers' Experiences of the Child Support System. Table 7 'Financial hardship impacts from child support debt'. Melbourne: Swinburne University of Technology. DOI:10.25916/5dd4ab2528b12 G DAD - WHEN YOU DON'T PAY THE CORRECT CHILD SUPPORT TO MUM.... YOU ARE NOT PAYING SUPPORT TO ME.

YOUR CHOICE HURTS ME.

DAY TO DAY.

YEAR ON YEAR. 99



66 THESE EXAMPLES ARE MY LIVING EXPERIENCE OF PREVENTABLE POVERTY.^[2] 99

DAD - YOU BUY BOOKS, APPS, SUBSCRIPTIONS.

I HAVE NO SCHOOLBOOKS.

WE CAN'T AFFORD THE BOOK LIST.

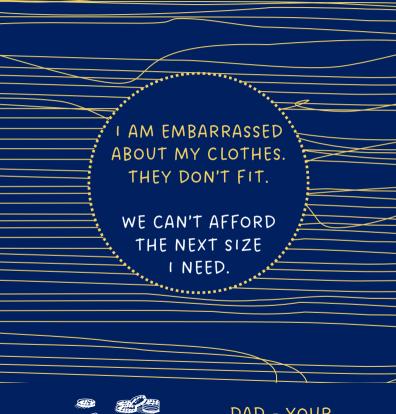


DAD - YOU HAVE WHAT YOU NEED (TOOLS/ SKILLS) TO DO YOUR JOB.

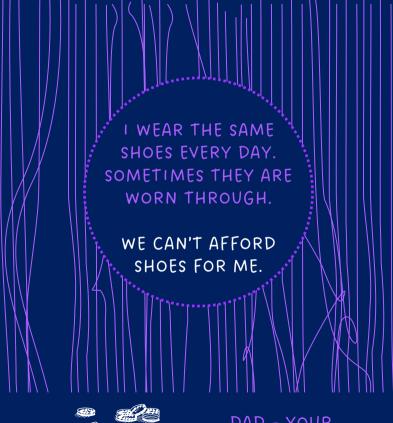




DAD - YOU GET DRESSED FOR WORK EACH DAY.



DAD - YOU CAN HAVE WEEKEND CLOTHES.



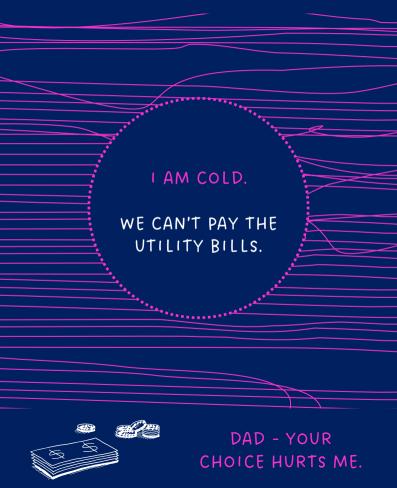
DAD - YOU CHOOSE WHICH TRANSPORT SUITS YOU BEST.

I HAVE STARTED STAR

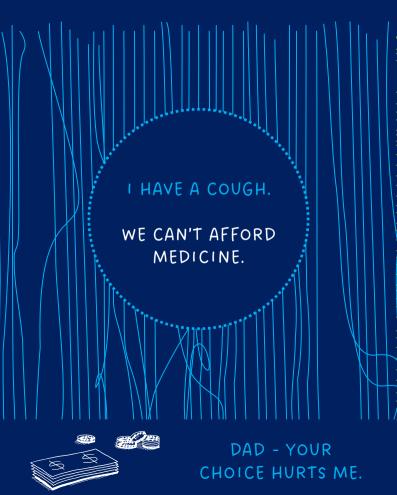
MUM CAN'T AFFORD THE COST OF REGISTERING OR RUNNING THE CAR.



DAD - YOU CAN SWITCH THE HEATER ON.



DAD - YOU BUY YOURSELF COFFEE.



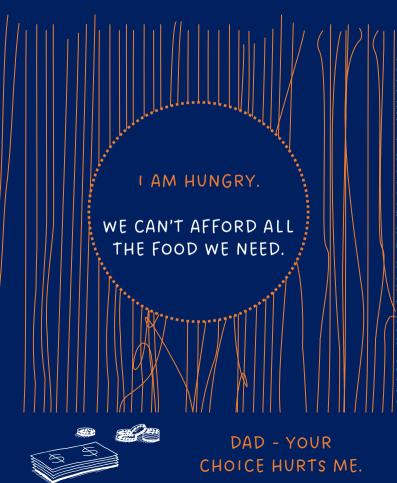
DAD - YOU CAN GO TO THE DOCTOR WHEN YOU NEED TO.



WE CAN'T AFFORD FOR MUM TO MISS WORK TO BE AT THE APPOINTMENTS.



DAD - YOU BUY YOURSELF LUNCH.



DAD - YOU HAVE WHAT YOU NEED (TOOLS/ SKILLS) TO DO YOUR JOB.

I AM WORRIED WE WILL LIVE IN THE CAR.

WE CAN'T AFFORD RENT.



66 PLEASE STOP HURTING ME.

PLEASE STOP LIMITING MY LIVING.



NO BIG BIRTHDAY GIFTS, OR SPECIAL TREATS, OR TAKEAWAY ON CONTACT VISITS, CAN REPAIR OR MAKE UP FOR MY EXPERIENCES OF DISCOMFORT, HUMILIATION AND WORRY.

> DAD – PLEASE CHANGE YOUR CHOICES.

GAD - WHEN I AM OLDER - HOW WILL YOU ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS? 39

"DAD - DO YOU DO CASH WORK TO AVOID TAX AND AVOID CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS?"

> "DAD - DO YOU USE LOOPHOLES IN THE SYSTEM TO AVOID PAYING IN FULL — OR AT ALL?"

"DAD - DO YOU PUT YOUR ASSETS UNDER DIFFERENT NAMES TO AVOID PAYMENT?"

> "DAD - DO YOU AVOID LODGING TAX RETURNS TO AVOID PAYMENTS?"





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