

## How Australia Has Changed over 50 Years: Ignore these changes and go broke!

Dr Geoff Haw provided interesting insight as to how the change that has taken place in Australia is affecting the way we do business. Geoff has many 'strings to his bow' which include:-

- HR Recruitment
- Facilitator of professional development
- Keynote speaker
- Author
- Life Coach
- Consultant to UNESCO
- Youth leadership development
- Master of ceremonies
- Celebrant

Some of the discussion points covered by Geoff included:-

1. Generational overviews and generalisations: What are the trends?
2. The internationalism of society: impact of migration
3. What constitutes a family any more? Or a working family? Sell what people need!!!
4. Issues of inter-generational working together. Impossible or possible?
5. How important is work as an end in itself? Should a Government keep us in our dotage, or should we be rewarded for individual effort? Issues facing the self-funded (hopefully) retiree.
6. The ageing population and implications for society/Government. Dashed promises: *"You will retire at 55 – oh heck, you're Super's gone. Keep working."* If we have to work past 55, what incentives might keep us there without grumbling? How do society's values influence society?
7. The loss of self-sufficiency; decentralisation of Australia: *"Made in China! Goodbye, England! Hullo, Asia – if you'll have us!"*

Geoff was particularly interested in how different generations can work together. He pointed out that age was not the killer, but rather attitude was the problem. Geoff is excited by the youth of today and he and his wife Penny are very involved with Youth Leadership.

Another area of great interest to Geoff was just what the incentives are to keep older people at work and not wanting to retire at 55. He came up with these three suggestions:-

1. We love having money. If our Super is not enough to support us, then keep working for the money.
2. Government could consider reducing the taxation level once we reach 55 and that could keep us at work longer.
3. Cut the costs to the employer and they may be more interested in giving older people work.

When people continue to work at least they are contributing to society and not looking for 'hand outs'.

Geoff will build more details on these points when he is guest expert in [www.BusinessForumOfExperts.biz](http://www.BusinessForumOfExperts.biz)