

# A Letter From a Young Georgist

by Jordan van Rhyn

---

AS A YOUNG GEORGIST, I find myself often wondering about the future of our movement. I suppose it is because my generation will eventually have to take the reins, as every generation does, and has since 1879. My name is Jordan van Rhyn. I am currently fifteen years old.

When I consider the long and storied history of the Georgist movement, I am always surprised at the relentless hope of its people. Through it all, Georgists have always remained hopeful about the future of this planet and its people. I suspect this hope is due to our surety in what we believe. Indeed, my studies of economics since I became a Georgist have only confirmed what I already knew – that Henry George's remedy is of unparalleled importance.

Since reading *Progress and Poverty* first a year and a half ago (I stumbled across it from a Wikipedia page), I have been filled with the same hope. It has reassured me during dark times to know that not all of our problems must last forever, and that solutions do exist. I am humbled when I think of the efforts put in for the Georgist movement; for more than a hundred years and through millions of hours, volunteers have worked for the cause. Occasionally – and I suspect this is exacerbated by my being young – it feels as though nothing can be done; that perhaps we are too far gone to save this planet and the people on it; that the system is too entrenched to ever be changed. But I am reassured by the knowledge that the truth has been found – at least, by some. I am heartened by the knowledge that individuals across the globe are co-ordinating for a brighter future.

Perhaps we will not achieve our goals soon. Perhaps not in our time. But eventually, as George himself stated, the truth 'will at length prevail'.

I am fortunate to have ended up living in Melbourne, Australia, where there is still a relatively vibrant Georgist community. But even living in a city where Georgist organisations

are present, it is hard to meet other like-minded youth. I have met one other young Georgist since I became a Georgist in December of 2015. Admittedly, I have met many outstanding and intelligent adults. But it is an area of particular concern for me that not enough young people are hearing about the Georgist cause.

I have attempted to remedy this in my own way. Having dabbled in design earlier in life, I set out to create a recognisable flag for Georgists to fly, with the aim of expressing the passion and zeal that I feel, and allowing others to express the same. I did this because perhaps one of the benefits of Georgists is our ability to reach across ideological lines: to speak to the people that identify with another cause, or none at all. But I have found in my capacity as a Georgist a need to connect with other Georgists. I can only hope that I have furthered this goal.

In epilogue, I would encourage fellow Georgists, young and old, to connect with one another, and to reach out to others. And while I have a platform, it may not be out of place to express my desire for an organisation dedicated to young Georgists and youth outreach globally. I have many ideas for such an organisation; the only problem is the necessary financial and human support required. But it certainly isn't impossible! I'd love to talk with any interested parties.

To other young Georgists: please contact me on Facebook or on other platforms. I'm open for a chat!

There are great and many problems faced by humanity and by the people of the Georgist movement. But with people like ours, I have no doubt that they will be overcome.