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unsuitable, insecure employment, following the completion of education and training.

Unemployment is currently being experienced by a high proportion of our young people.

Sir Roger Douglas fostered unemployment, believing that competition for positions would drive the costs of production down, increase profits and make the workforce more compliant. Bill English's notion that a low-wage economy is attractive, National's love of youth rates and a low minimum wage, and the National-ACT cup-of-tea bonding, show that the dark shadow of Rogernomics still hangs over us. But Rogernomics has not worked. Starting in the mid-1980s, we slid down the OECD GDP per capita rankings, and are now settled near the bottom.

There is a better way. As successive cohorts graduate and seek jobs, government should underpin their availability. Full employment is the goal. It worked well for Singapore. Here, Labour has practical and affordable policies for integrated education, skills and industrial development. But not National, which, for

example, borrowed to give tax cuts to the well off and will spend \$500 million importing trains, leaving many of our youth without the skills they might have gained building them.

KEVIN BROUGHAN
Hamilton

Jobs for the young

Parents react with dismay when their children experience a period of unemployment, or low-paid