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FIFO / DIDO is a quick way to kill a town. The people who live in the town are forgotten about and everyone bends over backwards to accommodate the 'new' workforce. The town that has to accommodate them, gets nothing in return for this situation, except of course for overinflated housing prices and the cost of living through the roof.

As for the workers that work in this situation, it is definitely only suited for a particular kind of person who is strong minded, single or part of a very strong relationship, and only in it for the money. There is no care for the town they come in to, they do not spend their money here and as their financial outlay to be here is next to nothing, it causes major problems with the townsfolk who live in the town and do the same job, but also have to manage to raise their family, rent or pay a mortgage to keep a roof over their family's head and watch these people breeze in and out and brag about what they earn as a contractor (because they are so hard done by)!

In Hedland we have an 'accommodation camp' that has more facilities than the town offers it's townsfolk who have lived here and dedicated their blood, sweat and tears to this town. They also have a 'wet mess' and are less than 10km from a local pub. There is also a 'mini supermarket' yet the town has a Coles and Woolworths in it!! The only people profiting from this set up is the workers, and the company that run the camps and all the facilities in them. Due to company's booking all of the accommodation in town, it leaves little for the 'tourists' or 'visitors' to our town to book in to. Please feel free to come to Hedland at your own cost, with no 'titles' and book your own accommodation for a week or so and then put yourself in the shoes of the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and other family members that would love to come up and see members of their family, but cannot afford the cost of accommodation and are unable to stay with family members due to overcrowding.

I live next door to a house that is rented by a company that occupies it with FIFO workers. At times there are 4-5 cars parked in the driveway (as each person is supplied a hire car) and I have to try and manoeuvre into my carport.

Before FIFO / DIDO moved into town, you could rent a house for \$250.00 a week, now that same house is collecting \$1100.00 per week and nothing has changed, except the house is older!! Small business is dying as they cannot afford to pay their employees enough to cover rent and amenities. You also have the FIFO / DIDO workers now earning a small fortune and have no idea what to do with it so they experiment with drugs.

I have worked in the mines and I have done both the FIFO / DIDO way of life and I have also lived in the town I was working. My 'camps' had a small room with a bed, wardrobe, desk, bar fridge and chair in it. We had a Mess (for eating meals) and a swimming pool. That was it!! Living in town was much nicer as a worker, to have a 'home' to come home to at the end of each shift, not only that, but it supported the town and the people that lived in that town. Nowadays all people are after is the big dollars and they don't care who gets stomped in the middle of it.

I have lived in this town for 12 years (this time) and there is less here now than when I arrived, yes the extra money that the council has made is funding some lovely amenities, but the families are leaving in droves as they cannot afford to live here anymore, I am one of those that will be leaving as I no longer can justify being here. I am sure that the new sporting complex and other amenities will look lovely when completed. I wonder what the council will have to offer employees to work there, a house will probably have to be included as no one can afford \$1100.00pw when they only earn between \$500.00 - \$800.00 pw in 'normal' jobs.

**Each town should be set a percentage based on population, that can be employed in a FIFO / DIDO role.**

*Roni Talbot*