

Yes, but if you let the dollar come down isn't it more likely that we'll have inflation and everything else will cost so much more that...

Everything has to find its own level really, I think.

That's what they say.

That's why I think the GST is really not necessary. I mean it's a really futile effort and it's rather like putting tax on tax and the debt is still there, it's always going to be there.

The only thing to do is to just cut expenses so we don't have the 30 billion every year, we're getting into debt 30 billion every year.

The US is the second biggest debtor nation...

And they're still afloat.

I think that if you start thinking quite truthfully in terms of what our prices are and what they're going to be, I know they're not supposed to really go up but I can't be convinced that they won't with the tax. If the tax were hidden from us possibly it might not be such a problem but it seems to me that every time you buy something then you add 15%. You're suddenly going to be struck with the fact that this is an awfully expensive item - are you going to buy it? If you don't buy it, this is going to affect our economy, I don't see how it can help us, it's going to hurt our economy all the way through.

Isn't the whole idea that the tax is taking the place of something that's here? I can't see how if the manufacturers are paying 13% now and then they have to pay only 7% that they're going to lower their prices.

Well, under competition they might because each one is competing against the other and we're competing against the American stuff coming in too. So that's what they'd say, that under competition they'd stick to the 8%.

They're trying to convince us that it's 8% here and it's replacing this and then they're going to have market groups trying to keep the companies honest...

They're going to spend billions to police it.

It's disgusting, they've wasted more money...

The thing that I don't understand is why they didn't pick a round number like 5% or 10%, something that people can figure out in their heads and put it on absolutely everything, to me that's a fair tax. That means that if you buy a Porsche and I buy a Ford, I make the same percentage contribution to the tax to reduce the debt. Sure you're going to pay more for your Porsche but at least it would make this country equal. And one thing that I've heard people talking about is that the haves and the have nots are getting further and further apart and that was the one thing that I didn't understand. I know that the government has been trying to buy back votes by taking the tax off food and things but they're going to make more money off the caviar than they are on the coleslaw in the percentage basis. Rich people buy richer food and they're going to make more money there, so it is more equal to put it on absolutely everything and it becomes a forced savings plan for people who have less money or for seniors because then you get the rebates, but by having it on some things and not on others and on things that poor people have to have and on things that rich people don't have to have, I don't understand that and I don't agree with that at all.

Q. DOES OUR ECONOMY OPERATE IN AN INDEPENDENT WAY OR ARE THERE