I fully support the need to help and assist financially, as well as in practical ways, those who are genuinely disabled and unable to work and those who are unemployed through no fault of their own and are genuinely seeking and wanting to work. I am concerned however that the Scottish Parliament and MSP's are giving the impression that they would like to make Scotland a" benefits scroungers" paradise.

Please don't tell me they are few in number as my town has plenty of them. I retired 7 years ago after working for 50 years continuously and see these people idling every day and wanting for nothing as the state benefits are too generous to them. What they have in common is that they have 6/7 children in each family and get too much money from the multitude of state benefits available to them and because of this it will be nigh impossible to ever get them into employment willingly. In addition to these people there are those on the methadone programme and those on psychiatric or alcoholic programmes who appear able to do everything but work. I hear these people talk and laugh at the naivety of the benefits system and those who administer and run them locally as they are so easily hoodwinked.

In my opinion the Scottish Parliament and MSP's, as well as fighting to support the genuine needy should simultaneously state what they intend to do about the people who do not want to work but prefer a life on state benefits by whatever means. I don't think that even Chancellor Osborne's welfare reforms address this section of society in any meaningful way but more so affects those in work and on low wages who actually want to work.