

Sunday 18 July 2010

Tony Abbott admits workers will be worse off from Coalition's IR plans

Tony Abbott's refusal to guarantee no worker would be worse off under a Coalition government is a further sign he will bring back WorkChoices say unions.

Rather than being dead and buried, WorkChoices is set to be cloned and brought to life if Tony Abbott is elected said ACTU President Ged Kearney.

Ms Kearney said the Liberals are trying to con the Australian public and should be judged on their actions not on what they say now that an election has been called.

"Everyone knows what the Coalition did when they were last in government.

"They brought in WorkChoices without telling the Australian public.

"The Coalition gave employers the power to push down wages, cut basic job conditions and unfairly sack people.

"They still believe in WorkChoices and will bring it back as soon as they can.

"Tony Abbott has already admitted that you can't always trust what he says and yesterday he was exposed by his own workplace relations spokesperson as again being dishonest.

"Senior Liberal Eric Abetz admitted there would be back door changes to Labor's Fair Work IR system.

"Repeatedly this year Mr Abbott has said he will give employers greater 'flexibility'.

"On national television earlier this year Tony Abbott spelt out in clear terms the key elements of the industrial relations policy the Liberal Party will take to this year's Federal election, including a return to individual contracts and cuts to unfair dismissal protection.

"Mr Abbott has extreme views on a range of issues including workplace relations.

"He is still wedded to Howard-era policies and cannot be trusted by working Australians.

"Mr Abbott's industrial relations policies would take Australia backwards and unions are determined to make sure this does not happen," said Ms Kearney.

Media contact:
Anaya Latter ph 0432 121 636