



INDEPENDENT INQUIRY into Insecure Work

Chair: Brian Howe AO
Deputy Chair: Paul Munro

Level 6 365 Queen Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000

T 1300 362 223 (toll free)

W securejobs.org.au

E inquiry@securejobs.org.au

Online submission					
First name	Linda		Surname	Seaborn	
Age	46	Gender	Female	State	QLD
Occupation (if available)		Public servant			
Text of submission		<p>My name is Linda Seaborn, I'm 46 years old and I live in a member-run housing co-operative. I don't own my own home. I share my house with a friend, and I'm a mother to a grown up daughter who lives overseas. I am a member of the Australian Services Union.</p> <p>I currently work full-time and have been in this job for the last year. My contract is permanent and I find my job very rewarding and interesting with promising prospects for career development. I have had secure work with enough hours to support myself for the last five years.</p> <p>In the past I worked in the informal sector as a cleaner, and I did business administrative work. This was without a contract and casual. It was while my daughter was primary school aged and I was unable to commit to more formal work due to my child-caring responsibilities having precedence. During this time I had no leave provisions, work contract, or formal work conditions. Needless to say I had no superannuation. At least once a year I needed welfare assistance, usually to register the car. One of my greatest regrets from this time was not being able to spend much time with my parents, or for my daughter to have regular contact with her grandparents, because I could not afford the petrol. They live about 60km away.</p> <p>There was no training available to me and my career progression was purely what I could create for myself in very difficult circumstances ie zilch.</p> <p>After that I worked for many years on a part-time contract in the community services. Many of my friends have and do work casually and in insecure work. This means they are unable to access a loan, have difficulty planning and participating in social events and suffer a high level of financial stress due to inability to plan in the medium-long term. When I was in this situation I found I was treated as a 'low status' worker and my career development was not taken seriously. I see this with other people whose work is insecure.</p>			

	Work security and enough income to function within your community is vital to a stable and decent life. We should do everything we can to ensure that this is accessible to all who want it, for the sake of having a healthy society.
--	--

This submission was received online at the Inquiry's web site:

<http://securejobs.org.au/independent-inquiry-into-insecure-work-in-australia/>

Certain information, including full contact details, have been withheld to respect the privacy of the submitter. Further details about the publication of submissions and a privacy statement are available at the website.