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Online submission						
First name		Robyn		Surname	Reynolds	
Age	31-40		Gender	Female	State	VIC
Occupation (if available)			Casual teacher			

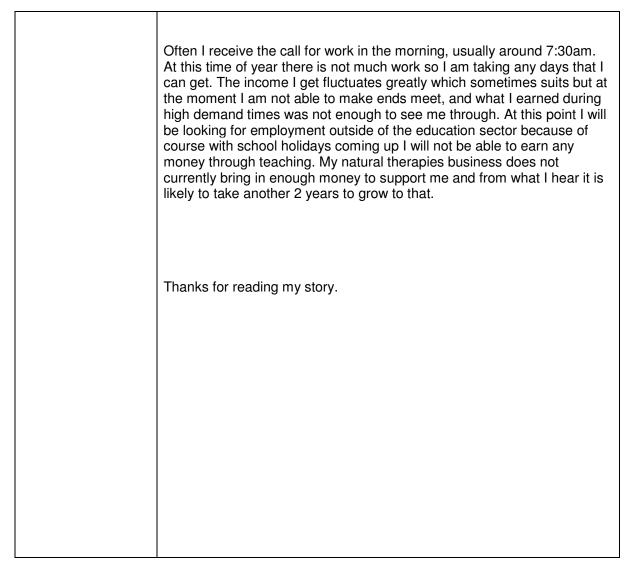
Text of submission

Hi, I am a mid-30's female living in a share house. I recently started up my own business in natural therapies as this is the only option for my modality at the moment.

My main source of income comes from Casual Relief Teaching (CRT) and I am a member of the AEU. CRT teachers are vital to the running of schools as we are the ones who get called up to come in when, for example, a regular teacher calls up sick.

As I am in the state of Victoria, I must either go through an agency which takes a portion of the daily rate, or direct to schools and sign individual employment contracts with each one. That also means there is no coordination between the individual schools I service and I am continually mindful that if I become annoying to a particular school they have the choice to call someone else rather than me. Every work day at a new school is literally like being at a job interview which is not the best condition for getting on with teaching and managing students who would otherwise be unsupervised or split and crammed into other classes.

In Victoria our daily rate is the lowest in Australia and has not kept up with other pay increases even in Victoria. It is not actually a true casual rate as it doesn't effectively factor in enough to cover school holidays or my own illness. I suppose it would be an option to look for full time work in the holidays, hence making CRTs eligible for Centrelink Newstart Allowance to fill the gaps. Currently I would be better off if I was a part time teacher even on 2 days per week as the daily CRT rate just doesn't make up for the financial insecurity of this vital role.



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.