

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Australia

## Submission to the Inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Small Business-Penalty Rates Exemption) Bill 2012

I am a permanent employee, working as a Air-conditioning mechanic , currently earning around 65,000 per year.

I live in \_\_\_\_\_ and have a have a mortgage. We are putting two teenagers through school and are struggling to cope with the pressures of city living, the ever escalating costs and electricity prices

The loss of penalty rates will only lead further to the destruction of our communities, a lowering of society standards! More families will have their structures eroded because of the never ending work cycle!

I believe this never ending seven day work cycle and push for more profit is what is wrong with our society!

When I was growing up the shops shut on Saturday afternoon and did not open till Monday and to the best of my knowledge no one ever starved to death and I doubt any one buys more baked beans because the shops are open longer.

As I see it the only thing that has come from weekend trading is the demise of the corner shop and a tighter strangle hold by big business

On weekends my farther would regularly pack up the family in the car and we would go to see friends or family, we might go to a picnic or a bush walk, I remember visiting Canberra and the war memorial, the Zoo, Warragamba dam and the Blue Mountains. But most of all I remember spending time with my family.

When is the last time you had a BBQ with your neighbour? Now every one is in and out at different time coming and going we barely know what they look like.

What about the football and the cricket Have you ever wondered why these place no longer get the crowds they used to?

I believe with our ever growing focus on the economy for the economy's sake we are forgetting the community and with the loss of the week end we have lost our sense of community.

What good is a booming economy if no one is happy?

I think we need to take a step back! Sundays should be returned to the people as a day of rest, a day of community! And those required to work should be compensated accordingly

abolishing penalty rate is short sighted and will only lead to further damage to what is all ready a shaky society

Submitted by

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