



Employment and Workplace Relations Committee to release parliamentary report into pay equity tonight

The House of Representatives Employment and Workplace Relations Committee will release tonight its 465 page report into pay equity and the associated issues related to increasing women's participation in the workforce at about **9:10pm** (23 November).

Committee Chair, Sharryn Jackson, said today "The lack of pay equity was one of the issues that sparked my interest in politics and social justice. As a young woman I was outraged that someone could or would be paid less for their work because of their gender. It angers me that over 30 years later, despite some progress, this is still the case."

"Some people say that we should wait – for what I am not sure, divine intervention? Haven't Australian women been waiting long enough?"

"After 17 months of gathering evidence through over 150 submissions and 29 public hearings around Australia, I feel that the 63 recommendations contained in this report will go some way to addressing the issue of pay inequity in Australia."

An electronic version of the report can be obtained from about **8:45am** on **Tuesday 24 November** from the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/ewr>. A media conference will be held at 1pm tomorrow with regard to the report, details as follows:

Event: Media Conference – Pay equity and associated issues related to increasing women's participation in the workforce.

Date/Time: Tuesday, 24 November 2009, 1:00pm – 1:30pm

Where: Committee Room 1R2, Parliament House, Canberra

Webcast: Live on <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting>

Embargoed copies of the report are also available from the secretariat offices (R1.110) from **1pm** to **members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery** in Canberra on presentation of their parliamentary press pass.

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair, Sharryn Jackson, on (02) 6277 4044

For background information, contact the Committee Secretary, on (02) 6277 4162