



Bronwyn Bishop MP

Chairman

House of Representatives Standing Committee on
Family & Human Services

MEDIA RELEASE

23 May 2006

Love, time and money: Australia's work/life collision

Professor Barbara Pocock will give evidence to the House Families Committee tomorrow (24 May) as part of the current parliamentary inquiry into balancing work and family.

Professor Pocock is one of Australia's most active public intellectuals in the study of work and its interaction with household and community life.

Recently, her work has focused on changes in the work-place, the trade-off between earnings and family time, and the difficult choices parents have to make about caring for their children.

Professor Pocock is director of the recently established Centre for Work and Life at the University of South Australia and co-convenor of the Australian Work + Family Policy Roundtable. She is also author of the influential *The Work/Life Collision* (2003).

Committee Chairman Bronwyn Bishop said, "Families need support to make choices about the best work and care arrangements for them".

"For example, child care needs to become more flexible to cater for those parents, particularly mothers, who wish to re-enter the workforce and may not be working a traditional nine-to-five job," she said.

"This inquiry is investigating how we can better support those choices and make best use of the skills, talents and aspirations of all members of Australian families."

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE

Venue: Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Canberra

Time: 10.15 am – 11.30 am

For media interview: Please contact Damien Jones on **0409 147 247** at the electorate office of the Committee Chairman, the Hon Mrs Bronwyn Bishop MP.

For further information on the public hearing: contact the Committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4566 or email fhs.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the website at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/fhs