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15 April 1999

The Secretary
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Employment
Education and Workplace Relations
R1, 116, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam

Media Release - 19 March 1999

Inquiry into Older Workers

I wish to lodge a submission for the above inquiry.

I am a local, having been "born and bred" in Mount Gambier and attending Mount Gambier High School. In addition, I always offer an enthusiastic and energetic approach to any challenges of life. Also, have worked most of my adult life and enjoy meeting people.

My previous position as a **Administrative Clerk**, became redundant on the 30 June 1995, when Bethesda Mount Gambier Incorporated changed its operations from a residential unit to a non-residential unit. Since then, have despatched well over 100 job applications for employment. Have enrolled at all Employment Agencies and attended the appropriate courses as required to enable me to be employed! Have obtained odd casual positions for short term only. I have attended the South East Institute of TAFE since 1995 to gain computer skills.

Presently, still applying for jobs and attending TAFE this semester – Computer Accounting (M. Y. O. B.)

I am over 50 years of age and feel discriminated against for this reason.

Since I have been made redundant, my marriage has broken down and I am receiving a Widow Allowance from Centerlink.

My only daughter lives in Adelaide and I travel by bus, as my car is very old. The fee is \$81.20 return, but not entitled to a concession!

REASONS:

- **Do not hold a Senior's Card.**
- **Not a pensioner.**

I am receiving income less than that of a pensioner and not entitled to all concessions. I approached Centrelink regarding this query?

REASONS GIVEN:-

- **Young enough to obtain work.**
- **Pensioners too old to work.**

I am a very hard working person and feel very frustrated in my present situation.

Yours faithfully

Jan Vinall