

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
2 and 3 NOVEMBER 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.1: Workplace relations policy and analysis

Output 2.1.1: Workplace relations policy advice

Question Number: W617-06

Question:

Senator Marshall asked in writing:

How will the Department measure the alleged 'major positive impact' of the changes on social and family life?

Answer:

The Department will continue to monitor the impact of agreement-making on women and disadvantaged groups through its Report on Agreement Making.

- The specific provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Work Choices) Bill (section 358A) maintains the current requirement for the Report on Agreement Making and expands the class of potentially disadvantaged persons to which the report to the Minister must have particular regard.
- The reporting requirements include the effects of bargaining on the employment (including wages and conditions of employment) of women, part-time employees, persons of a non-English speaking background, mature age workers and young persons.

The Department will continue to monitor key social and family indicators through sources such as Australian Bureau of Statistics data and Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) data.

The Department will also continue to liaise with other Commonwealth agencies, including the Department of Family and Community Services, regarding relevant surveys and research activities.