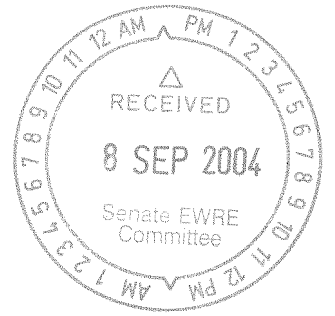


Submission

to

Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education
References Committee



Inquiry into student income support

My daughter is at Townsville Uni, as she did not receive an offer for a law degree close to home (Gold Coast). We are totally supporting her and our other 3 children. We can no longer afford to support her. Unfortunately she must leave and get a job as in her experience working around Uni studies has proved to be too difficult. One boss told her to choose between sitting for an exam or her job. She is devastated. If only we were really poor so we could get some government support, or really rich so we could afford to keep her there. But we are middle-class; we're the new poor, the new disadvantaged. We have had to remortgage our home to help her. The parental income test threshold needs to be raised to allow the middle-class kids a chance to become educated.

We are supporting 4 Adults and 2 children on one income. The Government has a responsibility to educate its people and parents should not be forced to support adults. Our children want to be educated but we need assistance. Every adult student should at least have a health care card so parents aren't forced to pay medical bills. The expense is too much for our family. My adult children should be given financial support from the government to be educated.

The Youth Allowance claim form is by far too invasive and requires information that is not necessary. The Government have access to the total amount of income earned by the parents and do not need to know what the income is spent on. This is invading the privacy of the family.

