

**The Secretary
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs
And Transport References
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600**

Helen Eastwood

06.08.2009

Dear Sir / Madam,

I have reviewed the Governments Bradley Report and applaud many of the recommendations.

However as the Mother of a child currently in his GAP year, as advised by a Government funded Body, Centrelink, I am totally mystified by the retrospective action being taken here.

As a Counsellor I am deeply concerned by the despair and despondency expressed by my clients, who are feeling let down and betrayed by this Government.

As part of the "Village" that rears all our children, I am concerned by the potential ramifications of requiring students to work for two years, as this will adversely impact on those school leavers NOT wishing to attend University. The too few rural jobs will be effectively sought by twice as many.

I request the Government amend these anomalies so as not to prejudice the already marginalised Rural Students.

Yours truly,

Helen Eastwood