

## Time to deliver - TV Ad Campaign

### What is happening and when?

On Sunday 25 May unions will begin to roll out a new TV advertisement that calls on our politicians to deliver a new set of IR laws that restore the rights of Australian workers. The ad will initially be broadcast in Syd/Melb/Brisb/Canberra/Darwin with start dates in other locations timed to coincide with local launches involving Sharan Burrow, Jeff Lawrence, local trades and labour councils, unions and workers.

### Why are unions launching a new advertisement?

Unions are continuing the conversation we started two years ago with working Australians about their rights at work.

The ACTU is keeping faith with those people who voted out Howard's WorkChoices IR laws. We are making sure their views continue to be heard, well after the election.

Working Australians have the expectation their wishes, as demonstrated through the ballot box, will be followed, which means scrapping WorkChoices and restoring people's rights at work.

### Hasn't Work Choices been scrapped already?

Just because the John Howard's Liberal Govt was defeated at the last election doesn't mean WorkChoices is dead.

While the Rudd Govt has banned new AWA individual contracts, most of the new laws that will scrap Work Choices will not be introduced into Parliament until later this year.

And if Labor's new laws are further held up by the Liberals and other politicians, then they may not be passed until next year.

### Weren't the unions only trying to get rid of the Liberals?

The media and the Liberal party said our campaign last year was about nothing more than defeating Howard. That was never the case, as these ads prove. Our campaign was always about getting rid of WorkChoices and restoring the rights of working Australians. This has yet to happen and that is why we are continuing the campaign we started in 2006.

## Has the Labor Govt broken its promise to get rid of Work Choices?

We're making a point to all politicians that they need to respect the wishes of working Australians, who voted to scrap WorkChoices at the last election.

We're confident Kevin Rudd will keep all his election promises – he has so far – but we want to remind the opposition and all Senators that they should also respect the will of the electorate.

## What are unions saying to the business community?

If there is another message in these advertisements, it's to the business lobby. We know big business is lobbying the government, trying to get the ALP to keep elements of WorkChoices. We hope these ads remind the business lobby that they too need to respect the will of the electorate and they should let the Labor Govt implement the commitments it made at the election.

## What rights for workers need to be restored?

Since 2006 unions have been campaigning for new industrial relations laws that give working Australians:

- A genuine right to bargain collectively
- Protection from unfair dismissal
- The right to be represented by a union
- Better pay and conditions
- The right to a say in their workplace

## What can working Australians do to make sure they get their rights at work back?

- *Tell your local MP or Senator how important your rights at work are.* Ask the Government members to keep you informed of their progress and when the Liberals try to block fair workplace laws in the Senate, make sure they are reminded that the Australian people voted for rights at work.
- *Get involved in union campaigns and public events* around important issues for Australian workers and their families such as paid maternity leave and superannuation.
- *Make sure employers who exploit workers are kept in check.* Contact the Union Hotline on **1300 362 223** if you know someone being forced on to an AWA or being hurt by the legacy of the former Liberal Government's laws.
- *Be active through your union* – strong unions are the best way to protect your rights at work and improve your wages and conditions. If you are not already a union member call the Unions Australia hotline on 1300 4 UNION (1300 486 466).
- *Sign up to email updates* — Join nearly 200,000 supporters on the Your Rights at Work website [www.rightsatwork.com.au/joinin](http://www.rightsatwork.com.au/joinin)