



Online submission					
<b>First name</b>	Anonymous		<b>Surname</b>		
<b>Age</b>	41-50	<b>Gender</b>	Female	<b>State</b>	NSW
<b>Occupation (if available)</b>	TAFE teacher				
<b>Text of submission</b>	<p>My name is Suzanne I have worked in TAFE for over 18 &amp; 1/2 years, I am currently a temporary teacher in Child and Family services at Bankstown TAFE. I have been a temporary teacher since January 2011, prior to that I was working as a part time casual teacher for 17 1/2 years. The last two years of my casual employment I was working more than a full time load of teaching.</p> <p>My initial term of employment was originally supposed to end on the 20th January 2012. Our faculty (community health and personal services) informed me that my temp position would not be extended, despite the fact that another temp teacher appointed at the same institute (at a different college) at the time was informed her position would be extended for a further 12 months. We both interviewed for the 2 positions under one job number, I was the highest ranking applicant and was given the choice of two colleges within our institute (SWSI) and she was appointed at the remaining college. I set about expressing my deep concern with HR and the Institute Director and have now recently been informed by faculty that they will extend my position - but only for 6 months. I was told it would be unlikely that I would be given further extension unless the section grew and developed it's commercial courses further (in other words I am required to find my future wages.)</p> <p>This is deeply concerning for me, my husband (who is a high school teacher) and I have three school age children and are still trying to buy our first home - time will run out for us soon for a mortgage if I don't find permanent employment. We have other financial commitments including school fees and 1 of our three children with a learning difficulty which requires regular specialist appointments. We feel like we cannot truly "settle down" as a family until I get permanent full time work.</p> <p>Whilst I have only been seeking full time permanent work in TAFE for the last two or three years, it is apparent that this is extremely difficult to get in this profession I love. I am extremely well qualified with two university degrees in education, as well as other related children's services and training qualifications. My experience in industry is diverse and I still continue to be employed occasionally on a casual basis in industry to maintain my currency. In July next year I will most likely be expected to</p>				

	<p>return to casual employment, and a much reduced income this will be devastating financially for our family. At present opportunities for casual hours are very limited. Casual hours have been reduced in our section by approximately 75% as hours to our courses have been dramatically reduced to accommodate budget cuts. This has meant there is less teaching available.</p> <p>Approximately 4 other casual teachers (like I was just a year ago) were on an average of 20 hours face to face teaching plus 6 hours and 20 minutes related duties. Casuals in our section had been allocated hours like this for a number of years and had been referred to by other staff within our sections as the "full time casuals". These same casuals are now lucky to be programmed for 4 hours a week, a number of our regular casuals have not been allocated any hours at all both this semester and next semester and are now actively seeking work, they are extremely highly qualified professionals who are an asset which our section has benefitted greatly from. It's outrageous that opportunities for public tertiary education are being reduced. It's a backwards step in society in general as well as in our economy long term. This situation is reminiscent of times gone by when only the wealthy could access education - not necessarily those with a passion or an ability for an area of expertise. TAFE needs more core funding, so it can maintain the quality and experience of the teaching staff it has, having sections run on a shoestring budget reduces quality which means the needs of the industries we serve cannot be fully met.</p> <p>Personally I need secure, full time work, and at present the outlook for this is extremely grim.</p>
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*This submission was received online at the Inquiry's web site:*

<http://securejobs.org.au/independent-inquiry-into-insecure-work-in-australia/>

*Certain information, including full contact details, have been withheld to respect the privacy of the submitter. Further details about the publication of submissions and a privacy statement are available at the website.*