



Online submission					
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<b>Age</b>	64	<b>Gender</b>	Male	<b>State</b>	Regional NSW
<b>Occupation (if available)</b>	Research scientist				
<b>Text of submission</b>	<p>I have spent most of my working life as a scientist on short contracts. Most research scientists are the same. I worked 12 years in a hospital when my first child was born to have a normal income and accumulate a little super.</p> <p>At this place I started in 1998 with some fairly regular work with a few contracts of a year or a bit longer and one led into another. Several years ago the contracts became less regular but at my age now 64 I didn't want to change careers or location so I have had irregular work averaging around 15 to 20 weeks per year for the last few years. A consequence of this is that I have only accumulated about \$80,000 in super since 1998.</p> <p>At the same time I have dipped into savings and previous super accounts. There are other consequences of this casual type of work being partly the insecurity; lack of participation in contributing to the direction of my workplace (ie being part of the team); difficulty in planning due to not knowing when there will be more work; keeping up skills is difficult. There is more I would like to say but I just don't have time right now. In general I don't think it is fair or equitable to have to work casual just because I am a scientist or academic. Most administrative staff I know have permanent positions. Casual is definitely negative and only suits the employer who doesn't have much care for their employees. There should be much less of it, it discourages loyalty. Please contact me if I can contribute further to this very serious issue.</p>				

*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.*