



Online submission					
<b>First name</b>	Leigh		<b>Surname</b>	Rees	
<b>Age</b>	Not specified	<b>Gender</b>	Not specified	<b>State</b>	NSW
<b>Occupation (if available)</b>	TAFE teacher				
<b>Text of submission</b>	<p>I made the critical mistake of leaving the Department of Education to travel and pursue other career interests. I returned to teaching in the primary division in NSW in 1997. I was informed that there was a 25 year waiting list for permanency on the North Coast. Believing this to be exaggerated, I stayed and after 6 years of being virtually a full-time teacher, but with only part-time teaching positions, I was burnt out. I had not received holiday pay for 6 years although I had worked full time. I was too exhausted to work for another 12 months. I used up much of my small superannuation benefit to survive as I was not eligible for any form of leave being only part time. In those 6 years, the only holiday I could afford for my son and I was 1 week's camping down the coast annually.</p> <p>I then upskilled and was employed by NCI TAFE as a teacher. I was employed on an hourly basis and discovered that this could change in an instant. My weekly hours have changed virtually every week. Whatever money I managed to save was used to survive the 3 month period of no income over December, January and most of February.</p> <p>Casual TAFE teachers tend to get their first full pay in the 1st week of March each year. This translates as having no savings by March each year, regardless of how much you might have saved prior to the Xmas break. Luckily my landlord is understanding about this and is astonished at the way we are treated.</p> <p>Apart from the unbearable stress this creates, we cannot apply for a home loan, or in fact any kind of loan over \$5,000. We are deemed a high risk even though we are engaged as teachers. TAFE casual appointments are considered by the financial world to be high risk. Yet TAFE relies on its casualised workforce and we are expected to perform at the drop of a hat.</p> <p>In the 7 years I have been with TAFE, not one permanent position has been advertised in our section.</p>				

	<p>I have an honours degree, a 3 year Diploma in Teaching, Cert IV in Workplace Training &amp; Assessment, completed units towards an Advanced Graduate Diploma in Adult Education and various other certificates. I live hand to mouth, from one pay period to the next. Retirement is not an option - ever.</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.*