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Submission to the Inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Small Business-Penalty Rates Exemption) Bill 2012

I am a permanent employee, working as a registered nurse, currently earning around 30.00 per hour.

I am a single mother with 2 children, I have a mortgage

If penalty rates were abolished... I would leave the nursing profession. Penalty rates are there to compensate me for time away from my girls, eg weekends, public holidays etc. without penalty rates they can forget it, I'll work monday to friday normal hours or I'll quit.

My weekends are important to me because...Let's turn this around why are weekends important to the bastards trying to do this....and why is my time not valued.
I have a family and friends who work the mon-fri 9-5 jobs, weekends are the time I

spend with them. I missed the beginning of my daughters suprise 16th birthday because I was working-and this is nothing to them

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. I feel that I am under valved and my time away from my family is not seen as important. I am a single mum, so I'm supposed to raise 2 well adjusted children, while working (so that i'm not a burden to the government) and trying to be there for my kids and family. I feel like they are walking all over me. I am worth nothing in there eyes. Without penalty rates I will have to work more shifts to support my kids and myself, which would take more parenting time away from them. You only have one go at parenting - I want to thank them for making this even harder

Submitted by
Melanie Edmonds
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