



**Achieving Work Life Balance
Survey of ASU Members April 2007**

Who was surveyed?

Of the 464 ASU members successfully contacted 203 members agreed and were eligible (had family responsibilities) to complete the survey.

Employment type

Declined.	Unsure	Casual	Part time	Full time
1%	2%	4%	36%	56%

Description of Household

Declined	Other	Two Adults	One Adult
3%	18%	60%	19%

Do your family responsibilities include caring for any of the following?

Declined	Another person	Another family member	Parent	Children
14%	3%	10%	28%	67%

Summary of Key Questions

How much would you say you know about the Federal Government's new IR laws?

Nothing	Hardly anything	Not much	A little	A lot
3%	10%	21%	43%	23%

Have you or anyone you know been affected by the new Workplace laws?

Declined	Unsure	No	Yes
0%	2%	73%	25%

If self how were you affected?

Declined	Other	Loss of Award conditions	AWA or individual contract that cut conditions	Unfair Dismissal
0%	20%	20%	40%	20%

If other person how were they affected?

Declined	Other	Loss of Award conditions	AWA or individual contract that cut conditions	Unfair Dismissal
0%	8%	29%	37%	26%



The most important factors that would help you balance your work and family?

Declined	Other	Job Share	48/52	Flexible hours	Predictable hours	Quality rostering	Quality part time work	Paid mat leave
2%	5%	7%	5%	23%	18%	20%	11%	8%

On average do you think workers who go onto AWA's will be better off, worse off or much the same as workers not on contracts?

Declined	Unsure	Much the same	Worse off	Better off
0%	5%	2%	91%	1%

Do you think the ASU should campaign to overturn the current workplace laws?

Declined	Unsure	No	Yes
0%	4%	2%	94%

Do you think the ASU should lobby political parties to adopt progressive policies to assist workers with family responsibilities?

Declined	Unsure	No	Yes
0%	3%	1%	95%

Sample of what our Members said

What should Employers do?

"Find out what workers want because they don't care, you're just a number to them. At least they could consult with people to find out their needs, and compromise accordingly."

"Listen to their employees and the unions."

"Make it more flexible with the hour you can work, and to be more understanding for working mums. Let people leave to pick their kids up from school and that sort of thing."

What should Government do?

"Legislate for paid maternity leave and flexible working hours. I think working from home should be counted as part of the normal working week. A minimum of six weeks paid maternity leave. Model it on the EU."

"I think make child care more affordable and more accessible because there don't seem to be many places available."

"Working part time you don't really earn much after you take child care into account. A lot of women I know feel like this. You have to weigh up whether it is even worth working. We could use more flexibility with working hours, making it easier for employees to negotiate their working hours."

"Get rid of the new laws."