

**From:** Janice Mendham [<mailto:bjmend77@tpg.com.au>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 May 2015 8:44 AM  
**To:** Communications Unit  
**Subject:** My daughter's right to work.

The Commissioner of the Australian Human Rights Commission.

We are parents of a 38 year old daughter Honi Mendham, who lives at home with us. Our daughter in her last years of school did work experience at Sunnyfield her ADE and was offered in 1995 a position in Sunnyfield's lighting factory "Ablite." She changed her job in 2002 working then in the Canteen at the main factory of Sunnyfield, then the packaging division, back to Ablite until its demise in 2013. A new business was started in the old factory with the constructions of TGA rooms in which she still works. Making it 20 years of employment this year, she loves working with her group and enjoys the social interaction at morning tea and lunch. It has encouraged her to try new skills and to interact with different people who visit the site as volunteers. It keeps her interested and prevents the tantrums caused by boredom which would otherwise occur and frustration when she has nothing to do at home.

She really has very little understanding of the money side of things and she would be devastated if she was unable to attend work if the Human Rights Commission keeps pushing for increased wages which would in the end cause the **demise of her place of employment. YOU will DESTROY her WORK PLACE** and take away her **RIGHT TO WORK**. She does not have the ability to work in open employment and thus would be isolated at home if this should occur. This would in turn impact on us and cause problems, in what we would be able to do during the normal working hours, **our health**, and as self-funded retirees and other like ourselves, we will all be forced to dip into our savings and thus end up on the pension much sooner, which will be a further cost to the government.

We as parents of a disabled daughter want what is best for our daughter and the best option for our daughter is to maintain her employment. **DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND SHE IS NEVER GOING TO BE ABLE TO GET ANOTHER JOB IF YOU AND ALL THE UNINFORMED DOGOODERS KEEP PUSHING THE BARROW THE WRONG WAY. You are not helping our daughter or us, more money is not everything we need in life.**

The Australian Human Rights Commission needs to find a workable solution that does not cause the demise of ADE's as they are and enables supported employment jobs viability to be maintained.

We are asking for your support to keep ADE's a viable operation for our daughter but also for the 20,000 people with a disability.

CONTACT INFORMATION: If you wish to speak to us regarding this please do not hesitate to call or email. Phone 02 9452 5846 email [bjmend77@tpg.com.au](mailto:bjmend77@tpg.com.au).

Yours truly,  
Brien W Mendham OAM & Janice P Mendham OAM – 2  
Mortain Avenue, Allambie Heights NSW 2100