Unemployed Under Attack!

The Coalition Government is currently campaigning to give privately owned Employment Service Providers unprecedented powers to fine and penalise the unemployed.

The Australian Unemployed Workers’ Union REJECTS this as:

1. **It ignores Australia’s growing unemployment crisis**
   There are **12 job seekers competing for each job vacancy** – the highest ratio of job seekers to job vacancies since records began. **The Government needs to stop punishing the unemployed for this crisis and create secure jobs!**

2. **It will push the unemployed into poverty**
   Newstart is **$277 per fortnight below the poverty line** – the lowest unemployment benefit in the developed world. Fining the unemployed could result in many people not being able to afford rent or essentials.

3. **It gives job providers too much power**
   Under this new system it is the worst time in Australia’s post war history to be unemployed. Why are these largely for-profit organisations being given these powers to punish the unemployed? The Government should help unemployed Australians into secure employment, not punish them.

**IT'S TIME TO FIGHT BACK!**
The Truth About Employment Service Providers

Most Employment Providers exist to make money off unemployment. They act for profit and accept government funds in questionable ways. Despite this, the Government continues to support them! Here are some facts about some Employment Service Providers they don’t want you to know:

- The ABC report that over the last 3 years, Employment Service Providers have claimed $41 million from the Government. And this is only what the Government has told us about!

- The ABC also report that in 2012, the Government released a report stating that only 40% of taxpayer funds given to Providers could be verified.

- As Four Corners recently exposed, a former Job Network employee whistleblower recently claimed that 80% of its claims for funds had “some sort of manipulation on them, from a forged signature with everything completely falsified to manipulation of a date or the hours worked”.

- A few years ago, the Government found that Max Employment had enrolled 141 people into a training course despite the fact its training room could only fit 15 jobseekers at a time. The Government let them claim the money anyway!

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