



Why are we rallying?

Who would like an extra.....\$20,000 in their pay each & every year?

Let's break it down a little....who would like an extra \$400 a week in their pay packet?

Who would like an extra approximately \$10 an hour?

Who would like approximately \$80 a day extra?

Who would like an extra \$1 in their pocket every 6 minutes?

Pop off for a cup of coffee & there's another dollar waiting for you when you arrive back at your desk. Take a 6 minute phone call with another dollar waiting when you hang up.

Think of all the extra holidays you can have! How much more sustainable your working life will be?

You see, in June the workers in our industry won significant pay rises awarded by the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC). In handing down their decision, the QIRC made some comments which Victorian workers should take notice of. Commissioner Fitzgerald stated that **the altruism & compassion of workers & a reluctance to take industrial action is assumed in government funding models.** Traditionally, our industry is dominated by female workers. Commissioner Fitzgerald also referred to the under-valuing & lack of reward for the work women have done, whether at home or at work. **This is an equal pay issue based on gender.**

Not anymore in Queensland it isn't!

Now before you all pack the sandals, beach towels & sunscreen & flock to various parts of the Queensland coastline, we have another idea. **Stay here & fight.** The Queensland workers had to organise, to plan, to strategise & negotiate. It took hard work, much like the hard work being undertaken right here, right now.

To get these pay rises will require an acknowledgement that there is interdependence between workers in the sector & our union, the ASU. The union can't achieve its objectives without the workers, & the workers can't achieve their objectives without the union. We now have a precedent, a well deserved & long overdue precedent which must be capitalised on. It provides us with tremendous leverage & tremendous confidence to exercise this leverage.

We can look at precedents from other sectors: nurses, teachers & the police. A big advantage we have on the nurses is they had to contend with opposition from their employers & government. We have support from many employers for increased wages.

So this is not a matter of a bitter, protracted, acrimonious dispute with employers. This will be a show of unity & harmony as we convince those in the halls of power they will give us nothing more than we deserve...**pay equity**...just as in Queensland, just as it should be in all states.

Oh & by the way, anyone not in the union, please join us. We want you. We, and the sector, need your support.

Click [here](#) to become a member of the Australian Services Union!