Shop owner **sacks** employee...

then re-employs her and cuts her wage from $100 to $65 a week?

I think essentially we were all fearful of what would happen when the WorkChoices legislation came in but now we have seen that the individuals on the lowest pay rates are the ones least likely to be able to stand up for themselves. If the young, or low skill workers don’t have a union then they are going to be trodden on by unscrupulous shop owners and businesses.

Phil Oswald, ETU Delegate

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Workchoices has removed fairness from the workplace as can be seen by the clippings on the following page.

The Howard Government has given the employer the right to sack people, and new ways to reduce your wages and conditions.

You and your family may not have been impacted yet. As more and more awards and agreements expire, the more you and your family will feel the effects of this attack on your rights at work.

The ETU is continuing to work hard on helping you to retain a decent workplace for you and your children. We are continuing to campaign against WorkChoices, and to restore some fairness to the Australian workplace.

Your support in this campaign is essential if we wish to leave our children a workplace were they have decent wages, conditions, and protection from unfair treatment.

Lets put the “Fair go” back into your workplace.

Bernie Riordan
Secretary
It just doesn’t make sense, this is just the beginning

PLEASE EXPLAIN

Mr Knight, 40, said he earned $880 last week. If his job is renewed – Cowra abattoir is offering to take back 20 of the sacked workers on the lesser federal award of $580 – “that’s $300 different on my arithmetic”, he said.

His friend Mick Doyle, 48, has spent 27 years at the abattoir, where 16 beef and 13 pig slaughterers have been told to finish up on May 5.

“It’s just wrong, mate,” Mr Doyle said last night. “They wanted an enterprise agreement, so we gave them one. Now they want to rip it up a year early. What sort of agreement is that?”

The mayor, Bruce Miller, said the dismissals were hard because “we all know each other”. This perhaps confirms what many have thought: that the new WorkChoices legislation is going to be abused.

Many of the workers said they were worried.

Of course we’re worried. What really pisses me off is John Howard and Andrew’s government. Why do they think the businesses are going to do something that is illegal? What are they going to do? To stay. If they don’t make the mortgage, they’re going to lose their house. So what are they going to do? They’re going to lose their job. They’re going to lose their house. They’re going to lose their life. They’re going to lose their family. They’re going to lose their future.

Kevin Andrews has refused to say if the business acted illegally.

The opposition says the backlash is due to media attention.

Mr Howard has said the outcome disproved “hysterical” claims by the Labor opposition and unions that WorkChoices offered no protections.

He refused to say whether the business had acted illegally, arguing that such a ruling had to be decided by courts and tribunals.

So how the hell do they expect us to do it?

Andrew’s doesn’t understand it.

Howard doesn’t understand it.

Real workers HURT by work choice – are you next?”