UNITE-MOBILISE-FIGHT

# MAYEDAY

TOGETHER WE CAN WIN

Speaker

### **Sharan Burrow**

President ACTU
President ICFTU

### SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY

**Assemble 11am Hyde Park North** 

March at 12 noon

2006

**International Day of Workers Rights & Peace** 



## May Day 2006

# Unite – Mobilise – Fight Together we can win

Together we can beat Howard's anti-worker laws. Together we can remove this Government from office. Together we can have the WorkChoices legislation removed from the books and consigned to the dustbin of history.

The Federal Government's workplace laws are a disaster for working families.

They have a simple aim - More profits for the bosses.

To achieve the increased profits, the Government acting on behalf of business, resorts to reducing wages and eliminating long standing rights and conditions from Australian workers. The facts are we have a Government who says that workers should fund big business by lowering their standard of living so those who are already well off become even richer. This has been the general philosophy of the Coalition Government in its 10 years of office and now they are applying their philosophy to each and every workplace in the country.

#### What does the Government intend to do?

- Abolish protection from unfair dismissal for millions of workers
- Force workers onto individual contracts with severe reductions in pay, conditions and rights in the workplace
- · Lower minimum wages
- Abolish awards in favour of 5 bare minimum conditions:
  - 1. a minimum hourly rate of pay (currently \$12.75)
  - 2. sick leave
  - 3. 4 weeks annual leave (2 weeks of which could be 'cashed out')
  - 4. unpaid parental leave
  - 5. weekly working hours
    This would erode conditions such as weekend, shift and public holiday rates; overtime; redundancy; pay; allowances; and loadings.
- Keep unions out of workplaces and reduce the capacity for workers to bargain collectively with their employer.
- Smash the Industrial Relations Commission.
- Unleash politically motivated attacks on unions (such as those on the CFMEU arising out of the Cole Royal Commission)

These changes will alter the landscape of Australian society. They will radically shift the balance of power in the workplace (and in society generally) to the side of the employers.

#### The end of a fair go!

For many in Australia a "fair go" doesn't exist. Under these laws a "fair go" will be abolished for all workers. Under these laws workers and their families will be forced to accept the intrusions of the employer into their family life and leisure time.

We can only stop this occurring by people uniting and fighting to put an end to this injustice. People and families are more important than big business making greater profits. This is why we say march on May Day 2006;

Join together for a fair go for Australian workers.

Join together to stop the Liberal/National assault on workers rights.

Join together to say that no government has the right to ride over the top of the people and reduce our standard of living and attack our basic rights.

Join together to demand the removal of anti-worker laws.

Join together because WE CAN WIN!