

## **We need a leader who knows how the economy works**

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IF ACTU President Sharan Burrow really believes that a corporatist-style summit of big government, big business and of course the ever-shrinking trade union movement can somehow forestall the oncoming very serious recession, she is completely unaware of how jobs come into existence, and how the real economy actually works.

The only thing commonwealth and state governments can do now to ameliorate the impact of this recession, is to repeal those laws which make it difficult, if not impossible, for would-be employers to take on new staff. Even worse, it is impossible for employers and employees to agree on new contracts which could save the company, and the jobs it provides, until times improve.

Our problem is that Kevin Rudd and Julia Gillard are hell-bent in going in the opposite direction with their so-called Fair Work legislation. Even worse is the me-tooism of Malcolm Turnbull and the Liberal Party. At the same time, the Governor-General, at a major conference on renewable energy in Abu Dhabi this week, has urged swift (read job-destroying) action on climate change as the Rudd Government sets out to decarbonise Australia's carbon-dependent economy.

How much misery will Australians have to endure before a political leader emerges who knows how the real economy works, and what has to be done to get it working again?

**Ray Evans**

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