



**Sharon Grierson MP**  
Federal Member for Newcastle

**Media Release**  
**26 March 2007**

**A LONELY BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR HOWARD'S WORKCHOICES**

Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson says the State election result shows that there is widespread community concern over the impact of John Howard's WorkChoices laws.

"With one in four people who voted for Labor saying industrial relations influenced their vote on Saturday, State Liberals won't be joining John Howard in celebrating WorkChoices' first birthday tomorrow," Ms Grierson said.

"Working people around Australia won't be at the party either, with a new poll this morning showing almost 60% of people opposed to WorkChoices."

"In Newcastle, 84% of people who responded to my survey last year were concerned about the impact of WorkChoices on themselves and their families."

"It's going to be a very lonely party indeed for Mr Howard and his federal Liberals."

"As they blow out the candles on WorkChoices' first birthday cake, they should reflect on the rights that they have extinguished for working people over the last year."

"3.7 million workers have lost their unfair dismissal protection while every single new Australian Workplace Agreement has cut at least one condition like overtime, penalty rates, public holidays pay and rest breaks."

"One year on, there is nothing in WorkChoices worth celebrating."

**Canberra**  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600  
Ph: 02 6277 4221  
Fax: 02 6277 8461



**Newcastle**  
427 Hunter Street  
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300  
Ph: 02 4926 1555  
Fax: 02 4926 1895  
[www.sharongrierson.com](http://www.sharongrierson.com)