

Put yourself in their shoes

Single mother of three interrogated by
secret government task force and not
allowed to discuss details with family.



The Howard Government must be held
accountable for these laws.

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difference.

www.ieu.org.au
www.rightsatwork.com.au

This is not the story of an alleged terrorist. Rather, it is about an Australian worker in Victoria who, acting as the health and safety officer on her worksite participated in industrial action because of concerns about an unsafe railway crossing outside the front gate of the worksite.

Brodene Wardley is a single mother of three from Portland.

Brodene is a crane driver, a member of the CFMEU and an occupational health and safety representative at Roche Mining's mineral sands processing plant near Hamilton in western Victoria.

Brodene received a letter from the ABCC task force saying she would be jailed if she did not appear before a task force hearing in Portland in early May.

She was to answer questions about her workmates taking unprotected industrial action at the plant in late 2005.

The Roche workers took action for 36 hours after a busload of them on their way to work had nearly been killed at an unsafe railway crossing right outside the plant's front gate.

Brodene was subjected to nearly four hours of interrogation. The interview was closed to all except the five interrogators and Brodene's lawyer.

If Brodene discusses any details of the interrogation with family or friends she can be sent to jail.

If she had refused to answer questions at the interrogation she could have been sent to jail. Under the law workers do not have the right to silence.

How would you feel if your child or grandchild was subjected to this treatment simply because they were a plumber or electrician or bricklayer? Put yourself in their shoes.