



**JULIE COLLINS MP
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MEMBER FOR FRANKLIN**

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SHADOW ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR EDUCATION
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MEDIA RELEASE

**ABBOTT GOVERNMENT HAS NO PLAN TO PREVENT YOUTH
UNEMPLOYMENT**

Australia's most vulnerable and disadvantaged youth have been forgotten by the Abbott Government as it drives reforms across employment services and broadens its Work for the Dole program.

The Shadow Minister for Employment, Julie Collins, said the Abbott Government had failed Australia's youth by introducing a culture of blame and penalising them for not meeting their mutual obligation requirements.

"Clearly, what this Government is saying is that it doesn't care about Australia's youth and it is intent on penalising people rather than supporting them when they need help the most," Ms Collins said.

"Instead of introducing unreasonable measures in its Work for the Dole program, the Abbott Government could have developed other ways to support Australia's most vulnerable youth into employment."

The Shadow Assistant Minister for Education, Amanda Rishworth, said the Abbott Government had left a considerable gap in services given it cut programs in the Budget which were successfully helping young people at-risk.

