EMPLOYMENT

* Injuries and Workers compensation
* Bullying/harassment/discrimination

**P1** If I get hurt at work, I am not going to tell anyone. I do not want to lose my job.

**P2** Actually here in Australia, it is important to report every injury, no matter how small.

**P1** No way! I will lose my job!

**P2** If you don’t report an injury and if it gets worse or you can’t work, you won’t be able to get help. If you do report when something happens at work, then you are covered.

**P1** Covered? By what? For what?

**P2** In Australia there is workers compensation. It is a system that pays you if you are hurt at work. It also pays for all your medical costs so that you can return to work.

**P1** So if I get hurt at work and report it and this system pays to get me better and get back to work?

**P2** Yes!

**P1** Does it apply to every injury? What if I get bullied and my doctor says that I have anxiety or depression?

**P2** Yes, that’s covered as well. Physical and mental injuries both are covered.

**P1** So if I get bullied at work because of my accent or religion or my gender, do I just wait until I can’t stand it anymore then go to my doctor?

**P2** No way. In Australia there are rules against bullying, harassment and discrimination. You don’t have to wait until you are so hurt by the comments or actions that you must go to the doctor. It is much better to speak up about these things early.

**P1** But if someone is being nasty to me at work, who do I tell?

**P2** You tell you supervisor or boss. The employer must provide you with a safe place to work, including a workplace free from bullying, discrimination and harassment.