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Office of the Employment Advocate
A Quantitative Evaluation of OEA
Recent Advertising Activity
Study No. 11241
October 1999

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## An Assessment

## Introduction

This assessment summarises the results of 826 telephone interviews conducted with Victorian and NSW employers and employees during the period July to September 1999. The detailed survey results can be found in the main body of this report.

## In Summary

The research assessing the impact of the Office of Employment Advocate's (OEA) recent advertising activity suggests that the task of making workers and employers more aware of the OEA and its role has been successful to some degree, although much work is still to be done.

While there is moderate awareness of the OEA itself and much of this is attributed to the recent TV campaign activity, relatively few have detailed recall of the campaign.

While this may be reflective of the weight of the advertising (ie how much air time it has had), the prompted recognition scores where two in three people ( $66 \%$ ) could recall the advertising after a description may also suggest that branding of the TVC to the OEA could be enhanced.

Moreover, understanding of the role of the OEA, of Australian Workplace Agreements and particular of Freedom of Association would also benefit by continued explanation.

Interestingly, overall, Victorians appear more informed about OEA and AWAs than those living in NSW...perhaps reflective of the different political arena under which the States have been operating.

Additionally, while there are some differences in levels of knowledge and awareness across industry and occupation sectors, all would benefit from further communication about the OEA, its role and linkage with AWA's and Freedom of Association.

The results outlined below and those analysed in the main body of this report illustrate the above comments.

## 1．Awareness of the OEA

Following the recent advertising one third（33\％）of the population is aware of the OEA．Employers are more aware of the OEA than workers．


Overall，Victorians are more aware of the OEA than those living in NSW．

Those employers in building and construction are the most aware of the OEA while employers in recreational，personal and other services are least familiar．

This suggests that the TV advertising has started the process of making people aware of the OEA＇s existence and that there is still ground to be made in terms of continuing to raise the profile of the organisation．

## 2. Sources of Awareness of the OEA

Awareness of the OEA comes primarily from business contacts (especially for $33 \%$ employers) and TV advertising (especially for $32 \%$ employees).

SOURCE OF AWARENESS OF OEA

|  | TOTAL (160) \% | EMPLOYERS $(163)$ $\%$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { EMPLOYEES } \\ (112) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Through industry/business contacts | 25 | (33) | 14 |
| TV advertising | 23 | 17 | (32) |
| At work. | 17 | 11 | 25 |
| Newspaper advertising | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| Radio | 8 | 7 | 9 |
| Magazine advertising | 5 | 7 | 2 |
| At uni/college | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| News/Current Affairs . | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| CES | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Conference on AWA | - | 1 | - |
| Don't know . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 10 | 13 | 6 |

Base: All aware of OEA in each segment

## 3. The Role of the OEA

Of those who are aware of the OEA, some $44 \%$ are unsure about what the office does. $10 \%$ of those who are aware of the OEA say its role is in mediation of disputes. This translates to about $3 \%$ of the total sample.

The full list of responsibilities which those who are aware of the OEA attribute to the Office is outlined in the main body of the report.

## 4. Awareness of OEA Advertising

Some 16\% of employers and employees in NSW and Victoria say they can recall recently seeing advertising for the OEA... the majority of employers and employees alike being unable to recall recent advertising (84\%).

(A) Sources of Awareness of OEA Advertising

Eight in ten (83\%) of those who claim to have seen the advertising suggest it was advertising on TV that they saw. This translates to about $13 \%$ of the total sample.

## (B) Content Recall of Advertising

Those who said they had seen the advertising had trouble describing the details of the ad with $47 \%$ saying they did not know the contents. Six in ten (59\%) employers did not know while one in three (36\%) employees were equally uninformed.

One in five (19\%) of those who could recall it mentioned issues associated with having the choice to join a union. This translates to $3 \%$ of the total sample. A further $10 \%$ suggested the message relayed contacting OEA if they were being victimised. This translates to under $2 \%$ of the sample and further suggests that most of the target audience has not received the intended message.


## 5. Australian Workplace Agreements

## (A) Awareness of AWAs

More encouragingly, a majority (83\%) of those surveyed said they had heard of AWAs. More employers are aware than workers.


Victorians (88\%) have higher awareness than those residing in NSW (78\%).

Male employees ( $81 \%$ ) are more aware than females ( $73 \%$ ) and younger workers are the least aware (66\%). Employers in wholesale/retail business are the least aware (81\%).
(B) Understanding of AWAs

As with awareness of AWAs, understanding of the meaning of AWAs is greater amongst employers with $38 \%$ saying it is an agreement between employers and employees, while one in five (22\%) employees describe it as this.
(C) Benefits of AWAs

Workers and employers had trouble describing the benefits of AWAs suggesting they are not fully cognisant of the advantages. While one in ten (10\%) cite mutually agreeable arrangements and a further $9 \%$ cite flexibility in the workplace, almost one in five (19\%) say they do not know.
(D) Drawbacks of AWAs

As with the difficulties associated with highlighting the advantages of AWAs, so the target audience has trouble isolating disadvantages, with one in four (23\%) unable to nominate any.

A similar proportion (26\%) said there were no drawbacks to AWAs...and an even higher number of employers said this (35\%) compared to employees (16\%).

## 6. Freedom of Association


(A) Awareness of FOA TV Advertising

Prompting with a description of the recent FOA commercial results in two in three (65\%) of those surveyed recognising the TVC. Slightly more employees are aware than employers.

Aided Awareness of FOA TV Advertising

(B) Message Takeout

The message replayed by those who could recall the TV advertising for FOA concerned two issues...
$\mathcal{E}$ "You don't have to belong to a union".
œ
"It's your choice, you have the right to choose".


An equal proportion of employers and workers took out the first message (39\%). Employers focussed more on the right to choose (42\%) than employees (34\%).

Significantly more Victorians takeout the message concerning freedom of choice while significantly more NSW residents takeout that they do not have to belong to a union, perhaps reflecting different government/business attitudes between the States.

Further messages taken from the TVC are highlighted in the main body of the report.

In essence, once exposed to the TVC, most respondents do takeout the intended message of being aware of the rights to choose a union membership. However, the call to action message does not appear to have been heard by most people (11\% suggesting you can call them if you are being intimidated).

## (C) Attitudes to the FOA Advertising

Broad attitudes to the FOA advertising suggest that the TVC does not appear to convey very much new or fresh information to the target audience. Moreover, employers (66\%) suggest it is less newsworthy to them than employees (59\%). Additionally, only $13 \%$ agreed that the ad told them something they did not already know.

About one in three (29\%) agree that the ad held their attention.

More employees (29\%) agreed that the ad made them think about workplace relations in their place of work which is marginally higher than employers (22\%) agreement to that statement.


## 7. Aided Awareness of OEA Print Advertising (Victoria only)

(A) FOA Print Advertising

On hearing a verbal description of the FOA print ad, one quarter ( $24 \%$ ) of Victorians recognised the ad. More employees recognised the ad (29\%) than employers (18\%).
(B) AWA Print Advertising

Three print ads for AWAs were evaluated in the survey and all three show similar levels of recognition by the target audience.

One of the ads specifically aimed at employers which began with the headline "Hundreds of employers have entered into AWAs" was recalled by $9 \%$ of all respondents surveyed and by slightly more employees (11\%) than employers (7\%).

The combined employer/employee ad using two pages opposite each other was recognised by $7 \%$ of the target audience and again by more employees (11\%) than employers (4\%).

The other employer-specific ad which contained the three main questions on a page was recalled by $8 \%$ of those surveyed and again employees report marginally higher recognition (10\%) than employers (6\%).

## 8. Freedom of Association Provisions

## (A) Awareness

Of those surveyed, three in ten (30\%) say they had heard of the Freedom of Association provisions. Employers are more familiar than workers as the following shows...


Understanding of the Provisions

While there is not comprehensive awareness of the freedom of association provisions, six in ten who are aware (58\%) of them describe them accurately as...
"You have the freedom to join a union or not/membership is not compulsory"

This translates to $17 \%$ of the total target audience being aware of the provisions.

## 9. Overall Attitudes to Workplace Relations

Two statements were read out to respondents and their level of agreement to both was established.

An overwhelming majority (95\%) of those surveyed agreed that...
"Workplace relations are a very important issue for ensuring the smooth running of a business"
and $75 \%$ agree strongly to this statement. Employers are more likely to agree strongly (84\% ) than employees (67\%) with the sentiment, no doubt a reflection of employers' focus on staff management.

Secondly, two in three (66\%) also agree that the they...
"Think more about workplace relations than they used to "
... with employers agreeing more (71\%) than employees (61\%).

While it is difficult to isolate whether the OEA's advertising is responsible for this recent attention by the target audience and particularly by employers, it does suggest that, as a whole, workplace relations are a more salient issue now than in the past.

## Background

The role of the Office of the Employment Advocate (OEA) is partly concerned with providing assistance and advice on The Workplace Relations Act, especially Australian Workplace Agreements (AWAs) and Freedom of Association (FOA).

A campaign designed to introduce the OEA and to raise understanding and awareness about its role has been developed. The campaign has a dual focus...raising awareness of both Freedom of Association and of Australian Workplace Agreements amongst both employers and employees.


The campaign consists of television, press and ethnic press which commenced in June this year.

The television campaign was launched in Victoria and was broadened to include other Australian States and Territories over a six month period.

The OEA wished to evaluate the effectiveness of the advertising campaign and therefore commissioned Brian Sweeney \& Associates (now Sweeney Research) to conduct research amongst the target market of employers and employees.

## Research Aim \& Objectives

The overall aim of the research may be summarised as follows...

To assess the level of awareness and understanding of the role of The OEA, Australian Workplace Agreements and Freedom of Association amongst employers and employees

More detailed objectives of the research amongst the target audience are outlined below...

C To assess overall awareness of the OEA

- who is aware?
- how did they hear (ie what sources told them of the OEA)?
- what do they see as the role of the OEA?
- unaided recall of any recent advertising for the OEA

C To assess awareness of OEA advertising on Freedom of Association (FOA) in particular

- prompted awareness of the TV and press elements
- which components of the campaign have been seen and by whom?
- message takeout from the TV campaign
- attitudes to the TV campaign

C To determine overall familiarity with FOA

- $\quad$ who has heard of the provisions in the Act?
- what is their understanding of the FOA provisions?

C To determine awareness of Australian Workplace Agreements (AWAs) in particular

- who has heard of them?
- what is their understanding of them?
- what are the perceived benefits and drawbacks?

In essence, the research is looking to isolate the impact of recent advertising on raising the profile of the OEA and explaining its role to the target audience as a whole and within the industry and occupation sectors.

## Research Approach

At the outset of the project, the research was designed to include both qualitative and quantitative research techniques in three stages to encompass measurement and exploration of the OEA and its recent advertising activity. The diagram below summarises the approach...


Phase 1: A quantitative measurement of 400 telephone interviews (200 employees and 200 employers) in Victoria after the launch of the advertising campaign.

Phase 2: A quantitative measurement of 426 telephone interviews (203 employees and 223 employers) in New South Wales after the launch of the advertising campaign.

Phase 3: A qualitative exploration consisting of four focus groups (two in Victoria and two in New South Wales) with a group of employers and employees in each state.

This research report contains the results of the total study 826 interviews from Victoria and NSW including breakdowns across industry and occupation sectors.

## Methodology

Both phases of the research were undertaken via a quantitative approach involving 826 telephone interviews with employers and employees using CATI (computer assisted telephone interviewing).

All interviews were conducted from our dedicated CATI facility in South Melbourne. The questionnaire took 10-15 minutes to complete and is contained in Appendix $A$ of this document. Screening questions for employers and employees were asked at the beginning of the interview to establish respondents' eligibility for the survey.

Victoria was conducted in July, NSW in September 1999.

## Sample

The sample was initially divided equally between employers and employees, however some modifications were made following the Victorian study. Namely, quotas on industry type for employers and gender for employees.

A broad range of businesses were included in the study.

## A) Employers

For the employer sample, the interviews were conducted with the proprietor or manager of the business - those people who are responsible for the hiring and firing of staff in the organisation.

The quotas set for employers were as follows...

Quotas on size of business...

| BUSINESS SIZE | Quota |
| :---: | :---: |
| Small businesses: 5-19 employees | 200 |
| Medium businesses: 20-200 employees | 200 |

## TABLE A: EMPLOYER SAMPLE DETAILS

| TOTAL EMPLOYERS | NO. OF INTERVIEWS (423) \% | $\begin{gathered} (100) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GENDER |  |  |
| Male <br> Female | $\begin{aligned} & 255 \\ & 168 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 60 \\ & 40 \end{aligned}$ |
| NO. OF EMPLOYEES |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 5-19 \ldots \\ & 20-200 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 214 \\ & 209 \end{aligned}$ | 51 <br> 49 |
| INDUSTRY |  |  |
| Manufacturing <br> Building/Construction <br> Wholesale/retail $\qquad$ <br> Transport/storage $\qquad$ <br> Finance/property/business services <br> Recreational/personal/other services | 82 <br> 79 <br> 70 <br> 50 <br> 71 <br> 71 | 19 <br> 19 <br> 17 <br> 12 <br> 17 <br> 17 |
| NESB |  |  |
| Yes <br> No | $\begin{gathered} 59 \\ 364 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 14 \\ & 86 \end{aligned}$ |

Quotas were also set on industry sector...

| INDUSTRY TYPE | Quota |
| :---: | :---: |
| Manufacturing | 80 |
| Building/construction. | 80 |
| Wholesale/retail | 70 |
| Transport/storage | 50 |
| Finance/property/business services | 70 |
| Recreational/personal and other services | 70 |
| TOTAL | 420 |

The chart below highlights the details of the sample...


Table A opposite contains more detail on the sample of employers.

TABLE B:
EMPLOYEES SAMPLE DETAILS

| TOTAL EMPLOYEES | NO. OF INTERVIEWS <br> (403) \% | $\begin{gathered} (100) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TOTAL EMPLOYEES |  |  |
| Male <br> Female | $\begin{aligned} & 216 \\ & 187 \end{aligned}$ | 54 46 |
| AGE |  |  |
| 18-29 years <br> 30-39 years <br> 40-49 years <br> 50+ years | $\begin{aligned} & 108 \\ & 119 \\ & 121 \\ & 56 \end{aligned}$ | 27 <br> 29 <br> 30 <br> 13 |
| OCCUPATION |  |  |
| Blue collar $\qquad$ <br> Tradesperson $\qquad$ <br> White collar $\qquad$ <br> Sales person/customer service $\qquad$ <br> Para professional $\qquad$ | 103 <br> 56 <br> 101 <br> 92 <br> 51 | 25 <br> 14 <br> 25 <br> 23 <br> 13 |
| NESB |  |  |
| Yes <br> No | 48 <br> 355 | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \\ & 88 \end{aligned}$ |



## B) Employees

For the employee sample, the interviews were conducted with workers employed in certain occupations. At the outset of the study, people in senior management roles and certain professionals such as doctors and lawyers were excluded from the study. As with previous qualitative work carried out for the OEA, interviews were conducted with people from workplaces employing more than five people.

Additionally, the NSW sample included a gender quota of males to females (60:40).


The breakdown of the quotas on occupation type over the whole sample of employees was as follows...

| OCCUPATION | Quota |
| :---: | :---: |
| Blue collar worker eg process workers, manual worker, building employee, driver | 100 |
| Trades person eg mechanic, plumber, carpenter, catering, hairdressing | 50 |
| White collar worker eg clerical position, supervisor of staff | 100 |
| Sales person and personal/customer service positions | 100 |
| Para professionals such as teachers and nurses | 50 |
| TOTAL | 400 |

The chart below outlines sample details for employees...


Table B on the opposite page provides a full breakdown of the sample of employees.

## Key Findings

TABLE 1A:
AWARENESS OF OEA -
AWARENESS OF OEA - EMPLOYERS


|  |  | TABLE 1B: AWARENESS OF OEA - EMPLOYEES |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | ER |  | AGE |  |
|  | TOTAL (403) \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { NSW } \\ (203) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { VIC } \\ (200) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | MALE (216) \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { FEMALE } \\ (187) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 18-29 \\ (108) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 30-39 \\ (119) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | 40 $(12$ $\%$ |
| Yes | 28 |  | (37) | 29 | 26 | 21 | 26 | 32 |
| No | 72 | 81 | 63 | 71 | 74 | 79 | 74 | 68 |

Base: All respondents, $n=826$

Q1A. Have you ever heard of the Office of Employment Advocate (OEA)?


## Knowledge of OEA

## Awareness of OEA

A key objective of the campaign as a whole is to raise the Australian population's broad awareness and understanding of the OEA and its role. Hence, the initial questions asked in the research focussed on these issues.

The overall research results provided in the following chart show that one-third (33\%) of the total population of employees and employers are aware of the OEA. Moreover, employers have slightly higher awareness (39\%) than employees (28\%)...


Table 1A and 1B on the page opposite show a number of interesting differences...

## Employers

C Victorian employers are more aware (43\%) than NSW employers (35\%);

C employers in businesses with 20-200 employees are more aware (45\%) than those with under 20 employees (32\%);

C indications are that the building and construction industry have higher awareness (46\%), while recreational/personal/other services are least aware (30\%);

## Employees

C similar to employers, Victorian employees are more aware (37\%) than their NSW counterparts (19\%);

C white collar (37\%) and para professionals (37\%) have the highest awareness amongst the occupation segments.

## Sources of Awareness of OEA

Those who had heard of the OEA were asked where they had heard about the Office. The results in the table below show that industry contacts (25\%) and TV advertising (23\%) account for most awareness of the OEA in the general population...

C employers are significantly more likely (33\%) than employees (14\%) to have heard of the OEA from their industry contacts;

C that said, one in four (25\%) OEA-aware employees reported finding out about the office from their place of work;

C additionally, employees report significantly higher awareness (32\%) of the OEA from TV advertising compared to employers (17\%).

SOURCE OF AWARENESS OF OEA

|  | TOTAL (160) \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { EMPLOYERS } \\ (163) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { EMPLOYEES } \\ (112) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Through industry/business contacts | 25 | (33) | 14 |
| TV advertising | 23 | 17 | (32) |
| At work. | 17 | 11 | 25 |
| Newspaper advertising . | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| Radio | 8 | 7 | 9 |
| Magazine advertising | 5 | 7 | 2 |
| At uni/college | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| New/Current Affairs | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| CES | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Conference on AWA | - | 1 | - |
| Don't know | 10 | 13 | 6 |

Base: All aware of OEA in each segment

|  |  | STATE |  |  | GENDER |  | NO. OF EMPLOYEES |  | INDUSTRY |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { TOTAL } \\ & (275) \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | EMPLOYERS TOTAL (163) \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { NSW } \\ (77) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { VIC } \\ & (86) \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { MALE } \\ & (103) \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { FEMALE } \\ (60) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5-19 \\ (69) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 20-200 \\ (94) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { MFG } \\ (35) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | BUILD CONST (36) \% | Whole -SALE/ RETAIL (26)* | TRANSP. STORAGE (20)* \% | FIN. PROP. BUS. SERVICES (25)* \% | REC. PERS. OTHER SERVICES (21)* \% |
| Through industry/business contacts | 25 | 33 | 32 | 34 | 31 | 37 | 26 | (38) | 23 | (44) | 27 | 10 | (44) | (48) |
| TV advertising | 23 | 17 | 17 | 16 | (20) | 10 | 17 | 16 | 26 | 3 | 23 | 25 | 16 | 10 |
| At work...... | 17 | 11 | 9 | 13 | - | (20) | 6 | (15) | 17 | 17 | 12 | - | 4 | 10 |
| Newspaper advertising . | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 18 | 12 | 14 | 17 | 26 | 19 | 19 | 20 | - | 5 |
| Radio | 8 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 12 | - | 13 | 3 | 9 | - | 4 | - | 16 | 19 |
| Magazine advertising | 5 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 15 | 10 | - | - |
| At university/college | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | - | - | 4 | 5 | 8 | - |
| The news/current affairs shows . | 2 | 2 | 4 | - | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | - | 6 | 4 | - | - | - |
| C.E.S . | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | - | 5 | - | 5 |
| Conference on Australian Workplace Agreements | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 5 | - | - |
| Other. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 6 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 10 | 16 | 10 |
| Don't know . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 10 | 13 | 10 | 15 | 13 | 13 | 14 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 15 | 20 | 8 | 14 |

[^0]Q1B. Where did you hear about the Office of Employment Advocate (OEA)?

Analysis in table 2A opposite shows a number of interesting differences (although we caution the small bases in industry sub-segments)...

## Employers

C industry/business contacts is a higher source of OEA awareness for medium companies (38\%) than those companies with under 20 staff (26\%);

C industry and business contacts appear to have been recalled by more employees in recreational/personal/other services (48\%), building/construction (44\%) and finance/property (44\%) while transport/storage have least knowledge through this channel (10\%);

C males have higher awareness of the OEA through TV advertising (20\%) than females (10\%);

C employers in building and construction have least awareness of the OEA through TV advertising (3\%);

C female employers recall hearing about the OEA at work (20\%) more than males (6\%);

C in line with higher awareness through industry, employees of medium companies hear about the OEA through work (15\%) more than those with less than 20 staff (6\%).

Analysis in table 2B overleaf shows some differences amongst employees...

C females (19\%) are more likely to have heard of the OEA though industry/business than males (10\%);

C Victorian employees spontaneously cite TV advertising (39\%) significantly more so than NSW employees (17\%).

TABLE 2B:
SOURCE OF AWARENESS OF OEA - EMPLOYEES


Base: All aware of OEA in each segment

* Caution: small base

TABLE 3A:
ROLE OF OEA - EMPLOYERS

| Mediate in disputes between employer \& employees /negotiate between employee \& employer | $\begin{aligned} & \text { TOTAL } \\ & \text { (275) } \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | EMPLOYERS TOTAL (163) \% | STATE |  | GENDER |  | NO. OF EMPLOYEES |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { NSW } \\ (77) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { VIC } \\ & \text { (86) } \end{aligned}$ | MALE <br> (103) <br> \% | FEMALE <br> (60) \% | $\begin{gathered} 5-19 \\ (69) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 20-200 \\ (94) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 10 | 11 | 9 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 12 | 11 |
| Employees with problems in workplace can go to them | 9 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 6 |
| To protect employees, make sure they are treated well | 7 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 7 |
| Deals with workplace agreements | 7 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 12 | 4 | 10 |
| Oversee any disputes that arise in workplace /industrial relations | 7 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 11 |
| Making sure working conditions are fair | 6 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Place employment for pepole | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 2 |
| To act as an independent body/ombudsman/advisory body | 5 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| Make sure employers meet legislative requirements/do what they have to .. | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | - | 4 |
| Wage control | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Curb the unions | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | - | - | 3 |
| Monitoring employment conditions in general | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| Help with workers who have been unjustly treated | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | 21 |
| None/nothing | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| Others | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Don't know . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 44 | 46 | 43 | 49 | 49 | 42 | (52) | 41 |

Base: All aware of OEA in each segment


## Role of OEA

One of the objectives behind the current campaign is to generate understanding of the role of the OEA. The table below outlines responses from those employees and employers who reported being aware of the OEA. These results show that roughly half of all employers (46\%) did not know the role of the OEA. This is significantly higher than $14 \%$ of employees who could not explain the role of the OEA.

A broad range of responsibilities is put forward to the question "What does the Office of Employment Advocate do? What is their role as you see it?"

ROLE OF OEA

|  | TOTAL <br> $(275)$ | EMPLOYERS <br> $(163)$ | EMPLOYEES <br> $(112)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mediate in disputes between employer \& employees . . | 10 | 11 | 8 |
| Employees with problems in workplace can go to them . . | 9 | 8 | 11 |
| To protect employees, make sure they are treated well . . | 7 | 6 | 8 |
| Deals with workplace agreements . . . . . . . . . . . . . . |  |  |  |

Base: All aware of OEA in each segment

Table 3A on the opposite page shows that the full display of employer responses by state, gender and size of business. Bases were too small for analysis by industry on this issue.

As can be seen, few differences are in evidence, aside from those employers in businesses with less than 20 employees reporting less knowledge ( $52 \%$ don't know) of the role of the OEA compared to $41 \%$ of employers of medium business.

TABLE 3B:
ROLE OF OEA - EMPLOYEES

| Mediate in disputes between employer \& employees /negotiate between employee \& employer . | $\begin{gathered} \text { TOTAL } \\ (275) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | EMPLOYEES TOTAL <br> (112) \% | STATE |  | GENDER |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | NSW <br> (38) <br> \% | VIC <br> (74) \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { MALE } \\ \text { (63) } \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | FEMALE <br> (49) \% |
|  | 10 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 8 |
| Employees with problems in workplace can go to them | 9 | 11 | 8 | 12 | 7 | 16 |
| To protect employees, make sure they are treated well | 7 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 10 |
| Deals with workplace agreements | 7 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 7 | 4 |
| Oversee any disputes that arise in workplace /industrial relations | 7 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 10 | - |
| Making sure working conditions are fair | 6 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| Places employment for people | 5 | 4 | 11 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| To act as an independent body/ombudsman/advisory body | 5 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 12 |
| Make sure employers meet legislative requirements/do what they have to | 2 | 1 | - | 1 | 2 | - |
| Wage control/information | 1 | 4 | - | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| Curb the unions. | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | 2 |
| Monitoring employment conditions in general | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| None/nothing | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | - | 6 |
| Others | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 |
| Don't know | 44 | 14 | (57) | 32 | (47) | 33 |

Base: All aware of OEA in each segment

Table 3B on the page opposite shows the results of state and gender employees. Bases for occupation were too small for meaningful analysis.

Few differences emerged in the research except for the fact that NSW employees reported a higher 'don't know' (57\%) than Victorian employees (32\%). Similarly, the role of the OEA is higher among males (47\% don't know) compared to females (33\% don't know).
TABLE 4A:
AWARENESS OF OEA ADVERTISING - EMPLOYERS


## AWARENESS OF OEA ADVERTISING -EMPLOYEES


Base: All respondents, $\mathrm{n}=826$
a ロソリぐィTE

## Awareness of OEA Advertising

A key aim of this study was to establish the impact of the recent OEA TV and press advertising in Victoria and NSW．

In Victoria and NSW，some $16 \%$ can recall seeing advertising for the OEA recently．The following bar graph highlights that there is no difference between employers（16\％）and employees（16\％）on this measure．The majority（ $84 \%$ ）of employers and employees could not recall any recent advertising for the OEA．


Analysis across the sub－groups in tables 4A and 4B opposite shows a number of variations．．．

C those employers in manufacturing（24\％）and building／construction（27\％）claim higher awareness than other industries；

C although not statistically significant，blue collar workers（18\％）and para professionals（21\％） indicate higher awareness also．

C again not statistically significant，younger（14\％）and older（10\％）employees have less awareness，while those in the core working age group（30－39 and 40－49）have higher awareness（ $20 \%$ and $17 \%$ respectively）．


## Sources of Awareness of OEA Advertising

Those employers and employees who reported seeing advertising for the OEA were asked where they had seen the advertising and most report having been exposed via the television (83\%). This translates to $13 \%$ of the total sample...

C a higher proportion of employees (86\%) than employers (80\%) name TV as their key source;
C additionally, newspapers are cited by more employees (19\%) than employers (11\%);
C however, employers are more likely (6\%) to have seen OEA advertising in magazines than employees (0\%);

C moreover, employers also have more difficulty recalling the source of the advertising (6\% don't know) when compared to employees (0\%).

SOURCE OF AWARENESS OF OEA ADVERTISING

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { TOTAL } \\ (131) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | EMPLOYERS <br> (66) \% | EMPLOYEES $(65)$ $\%$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TV | 83 | 80 | (86) |
| Newspapers | 19 | 11 | (19) |
| Magazines . | 3 | $6$ | - |
| Don't know | 3 | $6$ | - |

Base: All recall advertising in each segment
Bases were too small for any additional analysis across industry or occupation sub-groups.

The small number of people (19) who reported having seen the OEA advertising in the newspapers were asked which papers they had seen it in. The following chart contains the raw figures for responses to this question (ie actual numbers of people) and should be treated as indicative results and with caution...

| NEWSPAPER ADS RECALLED IN |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | TOTAL <br> (19) | EMPLOYERS <br> (7) | EMPLOYEES <br> (12) |
| The Age . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 8 | 3 | 5 |
| Herald Sun ................................... | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Local papers | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Sunday Telegraph | 2 | - | 2 |
| Sydney Morning Herald . | 1 | - | 1 |
| Newcastle Herald . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 1 | - | 1 |
| Don't know . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 3 | 2 | 1 |

TABLE 4C:
CONTENT RECALL OF OEA ADVERTISING


Base: All recall OEA advertising in each segment

## Content Recall of OEA Advertising

Those respondents who did recall advertising for the OEA were asked the following question...
"What did the advertising say or show?"

The results in table 4C opposite show that half (47\%) the total sample have trouble describing the contents of the advertising. Perhaps of more concern is that one in six employers (59\%) are unfamiliar with the contents of the OEA advertising which is significantly higher than the one-third of employees (36\%) who don't know.

That said, just over one in five (19\%) of the total sample suggest the OEA advertising ...
"Says you don't have to join a union/it's your choice".
...similar proportions of employers (20\%) and employees (19\%) recall this aspect.

One in ten (10\%) have picked up on the victimisation message suggesting...
"Says if you are being victimised or a problem with employer, ring them"
...more employees (14\%) than employers (6\%) recall this aspect.

A further $8 \%$ of both employers and employees suggested....
"It says you can be a member of a union if you want to"

## Message Takeout of OEA Advertising

Those who could recall seeing OEA advertising were also asked the message of the advertising.

Respondents had difficulty describing the message with over one in four (44\%) saying they did not know... and slightly more, one in two (47\%), employers reporting they didn't know compared to employees (40\%).

MESSAGE OF OEA ADVERTISING


|  | TOTAL (131) \% | EMPLOYERS (66) $\%$ | EMPLOYEES <br> (65) <br> \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| You don't have to join a union/your choice | 17 | 14 | 20 |
| Freedom of choice | 12 | 15 | 9 |
| Safer workplace areas/workcover | 10 | 11 | 10 |
| They are there if you need them/if problems | 8 | 6 | 9 |
| You can join a union if you want to | 5 | 3 | 6 |
| Better relations in workplace | 4 | 6 | 2 |
| They're there for the employee | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| None/nothing | 2 | - | 3 |
| Don't know . . | 44 | 47 | 40 |

Base: All recalled OEA advertising in each segment

Q2e. What was the main message or messages they were trying to get across?
TABLE 5A:
AWARENESS OF AWAs -


TABLE 5B:
AWARENESS OF AWAs - EMPLOYEES

Base: All respondents, $\mathrm{n}=826$
AWARENESS OF AWAs - EMPLOYERS

Q3A. Before today, had you heard about Australian Workplace Agreements?

## Australian Workplace Agreements (AWAs)

## Awareness of AWAs

In addition to raising the profile of the OEA, the recent advertising is also aimed at raising awareness of Australian Workplace Agreements (AWAs).

Encouragingly, a majority (83\%) of both employers and employees are aware of AWAs...

C almost nine in ten (88\%) employers report awareness while;

C three in four (77\%) employees report awareness as the chart below shows...


Analysis across the sub-groups in the tables 5A \& 5B opposite shows...

C Victorian employers are more aware (94\%) than NSW employers (83\%);
C employers in the manufacturing industry are the most aware (94\%);
C employers in wholesale/retail are least aware (81\%);
C Victorian employees are more aware (81\%) of AWAs than NSW employees (73\%);
C male employees are more aware (81\%) of AWAs than female employees (71\%);
C younger employees (18-29 years) are the least aware (66\%);
C blue collar workers (63\%) are the least aware of AWAs.

Those who were aware of AWAs were asked a number of questions about them...

C understanding of AWAs
C perceived benefits of AWAs
C perceived drawbacks of AWAs

The results of each of these reviewed issues are detailed in the next few pages...

## Understanding of AWAs

The research shows that one in three (31\%) of the total population believes that AWAs are...

## "An agreement between employers and employees"

C Significantly more employers have this understanding compared to just over one in five (22\%) employees.

Further, a similar proportion (27\%) of the total population suggest AWAs are...
"An agreement made in workplace regarding terms and conditions of employment"

UNDERSTANDINGS OF AWAs

|  | TOTAL (683) <br> \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { EMPLOYERS } \\ (374) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { EMPLOYEES } \\ (309) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agreement between employers and employees | 31 | 38 | 22 |
| An agreement made in workplace regarding terms and conditions of employment | 27 | 26 | 28 |
| Employment contract between employer \& employee | 10 | 9 | 12 |
| Individual agreement between employer \& employee | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Agreements outside the award/pay conditions | 8 | 8 | 7 |
| Like an enterprise bargaining agreement | 5 | 6 | 4 |
| Unions are involved/can negotiate with them | 5 | 3 | 7 |
| Agreement made without union involvement | 4 | 5 | 2 |
| Don't know | 9 | 7 | 12 |

Base: All aware of Australian Workplace Agreements in each segment
Q3b. What do you understand by that phrase, Australian Workplace Agreements - what does it mean to you?


Analysis across subgroups of employers in table 6A opposite reveals that employers in the wholesale/retail sector suggest an agreement between employer and employee (60\%) with higher frequencythan other sectors.

Analysis in table 6B overleaf shows that...

C employers in the age range 18-29 (13\%) and trade persons (11\%) suggest...
"An agreement between employers and employees".
with lower frequency than other age groups and occupations;

C overall, younger employees have less understanding (25\% don't know) of AWAs;

C sales people also have less understanding (21\% don't know) than other occupations.


[^1]Q3B. What do you understand by that phrase, Australian Workplace Agreements - what does it mean to you?
TABLE 7A:
BENEFITS OF AWAs - E

| Mutually agreeable agreement/where are happy | TOTAL <br> (683) <br> \% | EMPLOYERS TOTAL (374) \% | State |  | GENDER |  | NO. OF EMPLOYEES |  | INDUSTRY |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { NSW } \\ (185) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { VIC } \\ (189) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { MALE } \\ & (230) \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | FEMALE <br> (144) <br> \% | $\begin{gathered} 5-19 \\ (185) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 20-200 \\ (189) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { MFG } \\ (77) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | BUILD CONST <br> (72) <br> \% | WHOLE -SALE RETAIL (57) \% | TRANSP. STORAGE <br> (43) <br> \% | FIN PROP BUS SERVICES $(64)$ $\%$ | REC. PERS OTHER SERVICES (61) \% |
|  | 10 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 8 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 12 | 14 | 15 |
| Gives both parties flexibility/more flexible . | 9 | 13 | 12 | 14 | 13 | 13 | 9 | (17) | 9 | 17 | 18 | 16 | 11 | 10 |
| Greater flexibility for employees in terms of money and working hours/working conditions | 9 | 8 | 10 | 5 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 7 |
| People know where they stand/both parties know what is expected . . . . | 7 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 7 | - | 8 | 8 |
| Employers can personalise employee agreements/individual | 6 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 11 | 12 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 9 | 2 |
| No union interference/less hassles with unions | 6 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 10 | 6 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 3 |
| You can tailor conditions to suit needs of employer \& employee | 6 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 12 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 12 | 5 | 10 |
| Discussion between employer \& employees interaction | 5 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 5 |
| Giving better productivity | 4 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 5 |
| Can negotiate for better pay | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 3 |
| Safeguard/security for employee | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| Benefits the employer . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | - | - | 2 | 5 | - |
| Creates a fair and equitable workplace ... | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | - | 2 | - | 3 |
| Can override the award conditions that aren't applicable to us | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 2 |
| None/nothing ........................ | 16 | 12 | 13 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 10 | 13 | 6 | 3 | 16 | 7 | 19 | 21 |
| Don't know . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 19 | 18 | 14 | 22 | 15 | 22 | (25) | 11 | 21 | 15 | 19 | 21 | 13 | 20 |

## Benefits of AWAs

When specifically asked to outline the benefits of AWAs, one in ten ( $10 \%$ ) respondents focus on mutual agreements (10\%) with a greater number of employers (11\%) than employees (7\%) suggesting this as a benefit. This translates to $8 \%$ of the total population being aware of AWAs benefits.

A further 9\% mention "flexibility" with more employers (13\%) than employees (4\%) saying this.

A further 9\% suggest more flexibility for employees in terms of money and hours is offered as a benefit

Both parties being aware of where they stand and what is expected is put forward as an advantage of AWAs by $7 \%$ of the total population.

Second tier benefits as cited by employers and employees are concerned with...

C less union interference by $6 \%$ (noting that slightly more employers - (8\%) say this than employees - 3\%);

C the ability to personalise employee agreements by $6 \%$ (again an employer favoured sentiment $8 \%$ compared to $4 \%$ of employees);

C the ability to tailor conditions to suit needs of both employer and employee also offered by $6 \%$ of the population;
$16 \%$ of the population (including one in ten (12\%) employers and a significantly higher, one in five (22\%) employees) say there are no benefits to AWAs. Additionally, one in five (19\%) don't know.

This does suggest there is still work to be done in making the population aware of the advantages of AWAs.

The table on the next page contains all the results and further analysis across the sub-groups of the employer population in the table 7A opposite show the following differences in response...

C employers of medium business (20-200) cite flexibility as a benefit of AWAs (17\%) with higher frequency than smaller businesses (9\%);

C employers of smaller companies are less aware of benefits ( $25 \%$ don't know) than those with medium sized companies (11\%).

|  | TOTAL <br> (683) \% | EMPLOYEES <br> TOTAL <br> $\left(\begin{array}{c}\text { (09) } \\ \%\end{array}\right.$ | STATE |  | GENDER |  | AGE GROUP |  |  |  | OCCUPATION |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { NSW } \\ (148) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { VIC } \\ (161) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { MALE } \\ (176) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { FEMALE } \\ (134) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { 18-29 } \\ \text { YRS } \\ (71) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 30-39 \\ \text { YRS } \\ (91) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 40-49 \\ \text { YRS } \\ \text { (99) } \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | 50 + YRS (48) \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { BLUE } \\ \text { COLLAR } \\ \text { (64) } \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | TRADES PERSON (44) \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { WHITE } \\ \text { COLLAR } \\ (87) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | SALES PERSON (66) \% | PARA PROF (48) \% |
| Mutually agreeable agreement/where all are happy . . | 10 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 12 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 10 | 5 |
| Gives both parties flexibility/more flexible | 9 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 3 | - | - | 2 | 8 | 5 | 2 |
| Greater flexibility for employees in terms of money and working hours/working conditions | 9 | 10 | 11 | 9 | 10 | 9 | 4 | 12 | 13 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 13 | 10 | 8 |
| People know where they stand/both parties know what is expected | 7 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 8 | 4 | 12 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 2 |
| Employers can personalise employee agreements/individual | 6 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| No union interference/less hassles with unions . . . . . | 6 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| You can tailor conditions to suit needs of employer \& employee . | 6 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 | - | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| Discussion between employer \& employees interaction | 5 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 9 | - |
| Giving better productivity | 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | - | 2 | 6 | 2 | 2 | - | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| Can negotiate for better pay .... | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | - | 2 | - | 4 | 3 | 10 |
| Safeguard/security for employee . | 3 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 2 | - | 2 | 3 | 9 | 7 |
| Benefits the employer .......... | 3 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 7 |
| Creates a fair and equitable workplace | 3 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 11 | 2 | 4 | - | 7 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 2 |
| Can override the award conditions that aren't applicable to us . . . . . | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 3 | 1 | - | - | 3 | 2 | - | 2 |
| None/nothing | 16 | 22 | 20 | 24 | 23 | 20 | 11 | 18 | 27 | 32 | 28 | 24 | 14 | 21 | 26 |
| Don't know . | 19 | 20 | (24) | 16 | 21 | 18 | (38) | 16 | 10 | 18 | (28) | (29) | 17 | 15 | 11 |

Note all other responses $1 \%$ orless


BENEFITS OF AWAs

|  | TOTAL | EMPLOYERS | EMPLOYEES |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mutually agreeable agreement/where all are happy | 10 | 11 | 7 |
| Gives both parties flexibility/more flexible | 9 | 13 | 4 |
| Greater flexibility for employees in terms of money and working | 9 | 8 | 10 |
| People know where they stand/both parties know what is | 7 | 7 | 6 |
| Employers can personalise employee agreements/individual | 6 | 8 | 4 |
| No union interference/less hassles with unions | 6 | 8 | 3 |
| You can tailor conditions to suit needs of employer \& employee | 6 | 8 | 3 |
| Discussion between employer \& employees interaction | 5 | 5 | 6 |
| Giving better productivity | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| Can negotiate for better pay | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Safeguard/security for employee | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| Benefits the employer | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Creates a fair and equitable workplace | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Can override the award conditions that aren't applicable to us | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| None/nothing | 16 | 12 | 22 |
| Don't know . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 19 | 18 | 20 |

Base: All aware of Australian Workplace Agreements in each segment

Analysis in table 7B on the opposite page shows...

C 18-29 year old workers do not know the benefits (38\%) as well as older workers;

C NSW employees admit to knowing less about AWAs (24\% don't know) than their Victorian counterparts (16\% don't know);

C those in blue collars occupations ( $28 \%$ don't know) and tradespeople ( $29 \%$ don't know) are also less informed about AWAs.

## Drawbacks of AWAs

Employees and employers found it difficult to pinpoint the drawbacks associated with AWAs with one in four (26\%) saying there were no drawbacks and a similar number saying they didn't know (23\%). Interestingly, significantly more employers (35\%) than employees (16\%) said there were no drawbacks.

Not surprisingly, the small number of drawbacks that were mentioned by employees tended to focus on the favouring of employers in AWAs as the table below illustrates...

DRAWBACKS OF AWAs

|  | TOTAL <br> (683) \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { EMPLOYERS } \\ (374) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { EMPLOYEES } \\ (309) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| People taken advantage of when they don't understand contracts. | 8 | 6 | 10 |
| Employer has upper hand/has the advantage | 7 | 5 | 11 |
| Reducing workers strength/no choice but to sign/bullied into signing | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| Creates inequality amongst different employees with similar skills/doing same work | 5 | 4 | 7 |
| Can lose benefits/can take existing entitlements away from you | 5 | 2 | 8 |
| Takes away union power/removes unions | 4 | 2 | 7 |
| Not flexible/too rigid | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| People's reluctance to do it/reluctant to commit/hard to get agreement | 4 | 6 | 1 |
| Reduced wages/pay worse for employees | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Favours employees/get too many benefits . | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Paperwork nightmare | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Would still have union involvement | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Rules \& regulations can make things difficult .................. | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Can't be implemented in all industries/not applicable to everyone/too inflexible | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Removes security/contract employment . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| A lengthy process | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| There is no set standard | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| None/nothing | 26 | 35 | 16 |
| Don't know | 23 | 21 | 26 |

DRAWBACKS OF AWAs - EMPLOYERS

|  | total (683) \% | EMPLOYERS TOTAL (374) \% | STATE |  | GENDER |  | NO. OF Employees |  | INDUSTRY |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { NSW } \\ (185) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { VIC } \\ (189) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { MALE } \\ (230) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { FEMALE } \\ (144) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5-19 \\ (185) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 20-200 \\ (189) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { MFG } \\ (77) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | BUILD CONST <br> (72) <br> \% | WHOLE -SALE RETAIL (57) \% | TRANSP. STORAGE (43) \% | FIN PROP BUS SERVICES $(64)$ $\%$ | REC. PERS OTHER SERVICES $(61)$ $\%$ |
| 'eople taken advantage of when they don't inderstand contracts | 8 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 11 | 5 |
| Employer has upper hand/has the advantage | 7 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 3 |
| Zeducing workers strength/no choice but to ;ign/bullied into signing | 6 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| うreates inequality amongst different mployees with similar skills/doing same work. | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 7 |
| Jan lose benefits/can take existing ?ntitlements away from you . | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | - | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| 「akes away union power/removes unions .... | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | - | - | 3 |
| Not flexible/too rigid | 4 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 4 | - | 3 | 3 |
| 'eople's reluctance to do it/reluctant to :ommit/hard to get agreement | 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 10 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 5 |
| Reduced wages/pay worse for employees .... | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| =avours employees/get too many benefits.... | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 7 | - | - | 3 | 2 |
| 'aperwork nightmare ...................... | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 6 | - | - | - | 5 | 3 |
| Nould still have union involvement . ....... | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | - | 5 | 5 | - |
| Zules \& regulations can make things difficult | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | - | - | 5 | 2 |
| Jan't be implemented in all industries/not applicable to everyone/too inflexible . . . . . . . | 1 | 1 | - | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | - | 4 | 2 | - | 2 | - |
| 2emoves security/contract employment . . . . . | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | 2 | - |
| t lengthy process ....................... | 1 | 2 | 4 | - | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | 2 | 5 |
| There is no set standard | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | - | 2 | 2 | - |
| Jone/nothing ............................. | 26 | 35 | 34 | 35 | (40) | 27 | 34 | 35 | 32 | 26 | (46) | (49) | 28 | 34 |
| Jon't know . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 23 | 21 | 17 | 25 | 18 | 26 | (28) | 14 | 22 | 19 | 21 | 26 | 19 | 21 |

Analysis across the employers segments in table 8A opposite shows that...

C male employers see no drawbacks (40\%) more so than their female counterparts (27\%);

C those in transport/storage (49\%) and in wholesale/retail (46\%) also see no drawbacks more so than other industries;

C and lastly, employers in smaller businesses are less aware of any drawbacks (28\%) than medium employers (14\%).

Analysis of sub-groups of employees in table 8B overleaf shows...

C younger employees are less concerned with employers having the upper hands a result of AWAs (1\%) than older workers.

C moreover, those over 50 are also more concerned with AWAs reducing workers' strengths/being bullied into signing agreements (25\%) than younger workers;

C more younger employees don't know of any drawbacks of AWAs (49\%);
DRAWBACKS OF AWAs - EMPLOYEES


[^2]Q3D. What do you see as the drawbacks of Australian Workplace Agreements?

## Freedom of Association Advertising

## Aided Awareness FOA TV Advertising

In addition to asking respondents spontaneous recollection of advertising for the OEA in general, employers and employees were also read out a description of the recent Freedom of Association (FOA) advertising and asked whether they had seen the advertisement. The following description was read out...
> "This ad starts with some footage of a large group of people walking slowly down a street in a demonstration. They are holding banners with words on them. The words on the banners are read out by a voice which says...
> "Australian workers live in a free country...now you can work in one too."
> "If you choose to belong to a union you can"
> "If you choose not to belong, you can do that too"
> "The decision is entirely up to you"
> "If you are being intimidated or discriminated against, call this number...The number is written on a banner"

> The ad then says...
> "Freedom of Association, it's your call"
> The ad finishes with the Office of Employment Advocate logo and an authorisation from the Commonwealth Government."

The results show that two in three (65\%) of the total population can recall the FOA advertising on prompting with a verbal description. Two-thirds (67\%) of employees recall it, while $63 \%$ of employers do.

AIDED AWARENESS OF FOA TV ADVERTISING - EMPLOYEES


[^3]*Caution: small base

Q4A. Can you recall seeing this advertising?

## Aided Awareness of FOA TV Advertising



Base: All respondents, $\mathrm{n}=826$
Q4a. Can you recall seeing this advertising?

Examining responses across sub-groups in tables 9A \& 9B opposite shows that most segments do recall the advertising at similar levels excepting...

C female employers appear to have less awareness of FOA advertising (54\%) than their male colleagues (69\%);

C younger employees report higher familiarity (72\%) with the FOA advertising than other age groups;

C workers in sales roles have least recall (60\%) of FOA advertising.


## Message of FOA TV Advertising

On hearing the verbal description of the advertising, almost one in four (39\%) respondents can accurately replay the message as being...

## "You don't have to belong to a union"

 ...an equal number of employers and employees take this message from the advertising A further four in ten (38\%) take the following message from the TVC..."It's your choice/have the right to choose/freedom of choice"
...slightly more employers (42\%) than employees (34\%) report this take-out.

MESSAGE OF FOA ADVERTISING

|  | TOTAL <br> (537) <br> \% | EMPLOYERS <br> (267) <br> \% | EMPLOYEES <br> (270) <br> \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| You don't have to belong to a union | 39 | 39 | 39 |
| It is your choice/have the right to choose/freedom of choice | 38 | (42) | 34 |
| Intimidation/call them if you are being harassed/they will help you | 11 | 7 | 14 |
| Unions not compulsory anymore | 7 | 9 | 6 |
| You can be a member of a union if you want to | 7 | 6 | 8 |
| Unions are looking for more members/asking you to belong to a union | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| They are trying to break unions | 4 | 2 | 7 |
| Workers have rights too/entitled to the award terms \& conditions | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| Freedom of Association | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| Promoting equal rights in the workplace | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| You are free to negotiate your own agreement/ conditions | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| None/nothing | 1 | - | 2 |
| Others | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| Don't know | 6 | 7 | 5 |

MAIN MESSAGE TAKEOUT FROM FOA TV ADVERTISING - EMPLOYERS

| You don't have to belong to a union . . . . | $\begin{aligned} & \text { TOTAL } \\ & (533) \end{aligned}$$\%$ | EMPLOYERSTOTAL(267)$\%$ | STATE |  | GENDER |  | NO. OF EMPLOYEES |  | INDUSTRY |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { NSW } \\ (142) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { VIC } \\ (125) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { MALE } \\ (177) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { FEMALE } \\ (90) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5-19 \\ (137) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 20-200 \\ (130) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { MFG } \\ (57) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | BUILD CONST <br> (51) <br> \% | WHOLE -SALE RETAIL <br> (43) \% | TRANSP. STORAGE (29) \% | FIN PROP BUS SERVICES $(43)$ $\%$ | ```REC. PERS OTHER SERVICES (44) %``` |
|  | 39 | 39 | (50) | 27 | 34 | 49 | 38 | 41 | 47 | 41 | 40 | 31 | 26 | 45 |
| It is your choice/have the right to choose/freedom of choice | 38 | 42 |  | (52) | 43 | 39 | 40 | 43 | 39 | 43 | 35 | 52 | 49 | 36 |
| Intimidation/call them if you are being harassed/they will help you . . . . . . . . . . . | 11 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 4 | 11 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 14 | 12 | 5 |
| Unions not compulsory anymore | 7 | 9 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 12 | 14 | 10 | 12 | 2 |
| You can be a member of a union if you want to | 7 | 6 | 11 | - | 5 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Unions are looking for more members/asking you to belong to a union . | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 7 | - | 2 | 2 |
| They are trying to break unions . . . . . . . . | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | - | 3 | 1 | - | 4 | 2 | - | - | 5 |
| Workers have rights too/entitled to the award terms \& conditions | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | - | 2 | - | 5 | 2 |
| Freedom of Association | 2 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 6 | - | 1 | 6 | 4 | 10 | 2 | - | - | 5 |
| Promoting equal rights in the workplace | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | - |
| You are free to negotiate your owe agreement/conditions | 1 | 2 | 4 | - | 3 | - | 1 | 3 | 2 | - | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| None/nothing | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | - | - |
| Others . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | - | 5 | - | 5 | 2 |
| Don't know . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 6 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 9 | 5 | 12 | 2 | 5 | - | 9 | 9 |

Base: All recalled FOA on prompting, $\mathrm{n}=270$
Q4B. What was the main message they were trying to get across?

There are a few differences between sub-groups in table 10A opposite and table 10B overleaf .

Most interesting is the State difference apparent amongst both employers and employees of Victoria and NSW, on the message takeout...
"You don't have to belong to a union"

50\% for NSW employers, $46 \%$ for employees compared to significantly less...
$27 \%$ for Victorian employers and $33 \%$ of Victorian employees.

Additionally, Victorians focus more on the 'choice' in the message takeout...
"It's your choice/have the right to choose/freedom of choice"
...with $52 \%$ of Victorian employers and $39 \%$ of Victorian employees compared to significantly less NSW employers (32\%) and employees (29\%) perhaps suggesting a different mindset between the two states on this issue.
Base: All recalled FOA on prompting, $\mathrm{n}=270$
MAIN MESSAGE TAKEOUT FROM FOA TV ADVERTISING -EMPLOYEES

| 'ou don't have to belong to a union | $\begin{aligned} & \text { TOTAL } \\ & \text { (537) } \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { EMPLOYEES } \\ & \text { TOTAL } \\ & (270) \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | StATE |  | GENDER |  | AGE GROUP |  |  |  | OCCUPATION |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { NSW } \\ (132) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { VIC } \\ (138) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { MALE } \\ (150) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { FEMALE } \\ (120) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | 18-29 YRS <br> (77) <br> \% | $\begin{gathered} 30-39 \\ \text { YRS } \\ \text { (82) } \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 40-49 \\ \text { YRS } \\ (75) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $50+$ YRS (35) \% | BLUE COLLAR (70) \% | TRADES PERSON (40) \% | WHITE COLLAR (71) $\%$ | SALES PERSON (55) $\%$ | PARA PROF (34) \% |
|  | 39 | 39 | (46) | 33 | 40 | 38 | 29 | 43 | 47 | 36 | 37 | 45 | 48 | 22 | 50 |
| $t$ is your choice/have the right to :hoose/freedom of choice ..... | 38 | 34 |  | (39) | 29 | 40 | 35 | 38 | 29 | 33 | 32 | 25 | 38 | 44 | 24 |
| ntimidation/call them if you are being larassed/they will help you . . . . . . . . . | 11 | 14 | 18 | 12 | 13 | 16 | 17 | 12 | 16 | 10 | (24) | - | 16 | 12 | 14 |
| Jnions not compulsory anymore | 7 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 10 | 2 | 9 |
| 'ou can be a member of a union if you want to | 7 | 8 | 16 | - | 8 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 12 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 8 | 11 | 7 |
| Jnions are looking for more members/asking 'ou to belong to a union | 4 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 13 | 1 | - | 9 | 6 | 3 | - | 16 | - |
| -hey are trying to break unions | 4 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 10 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 11 |
| Norkers have rights too/entitled to the award erms \& conditions | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 15 | 1 | 8 | 3 |
| -reedom of Association | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | 3 | 1 | - | 2 | - | - |
| Promoting equal rights in the workplace | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | - | 3 | - | 3 | 3 | 3 | - |
| /ou are free to negotiate your own agreement/ ;onditions | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 6 | - | - | 1 | - | 3 |
| Jone/nothing ............................ | 1 | 2 | - | 4 | 1 | 3 | - | 2 | 1 | 6 | 1 | - | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| Jthers | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 | - | 1 | - | 3 | 5 | - |
| Jon't know . . . . . . . . . . . . | 6 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 2 | 5 | 5 |

Q4B. What was the main message they were trying to get across?

ADVUCATE

## Attitudes to FOA TV Advertising

Perhaps surprisingly, the FOA commercial does not appear to offer very much fresh information to the target population with six in ten (63\%) agreeing with the statement ...
"There was nothing new in it for me".
...and a higher proportion of employers (66\%) offering agreement than employees (59\%).

In contrast, $13 \%$ agreed that the TVC did tell them something they didn't already know (fewer employers $-12 \%$ agreed with this than the $15 \%$ of employees).

One in three (29\%) of both employers and employees agreed that the TVC did hold their attention.

Just on one in four (26\%) agreed that the ad...
"Made me think about workplace relations at my place of work" ...again more of an employee (29\%) sentiment than employer (22\%) as the following chart shows...

ATTITUDES TO FOA TV ADVERTISING - EMPLOYERS


|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { TOTAL } \\ & (537) \end{aligned}$\% | EMPLOYEES TOTAL (270) \% | State |  | GENDER |  | AGE GROUP |  |  |  | OCCUPATION |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total agree with... |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { NSW } \\ (132) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { VIC } \\ (138) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { MALE } \\ (150) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { FEMALE } \\ (120) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | 18-29 YRS <br> (77) <br> \% |  | 40-49 YRS (75) \% | $\begin{gathered} \hline 50+ \\ \text { YRS } \\ \left(\begin{array}{c} \text { (35) } \\ \% \end{array}\right. \end{gathered}$ | BLUE COLLAR (70) \% | TRADES PERSON (40) \% | WHITE COLLAR (71) \% | SALES PERSON (55) \% | PARA PROF (34) \% |
| It told me something I didn't already know | 13 | 15 | 13 | 17 | 13 | 17 | 21 | 12 | 15 | 6 | 17 | 15 | 8 | 15 | 22 |
| It held my attention | 29 | 29 | 23 | (36) | 28 | 30 | 31 | 27 | 33 | 23 | 36 | 23 | 29 | 31 | 21 |
| It made me think about workplace relations at my work | 26 | 29 | 27 | 31 | 28 | 31 | 23 | 33 | 34 | 24 | (38) | 32 | 24 | 26 | 23 |
| There was nothing new in it for me | 63 | 59 | 62 | 57 | 62 | 55 | 52 | 59 | 64 | 67 | 53 | 61 | 71 | 50 | 61 |

[^4]Q4C. Which of the following statements apply to that ad?

Analysis in tables 11A \& 11B opposite show...

C employers of medium organisations agreed more strongly that there was nothing new in the TVC (71\%) compared to smaller organisations (61\%)

C Victorian employers (36\%) agreed it held their attention more than NSW employers (24\%);

C Victorian employees (36\%) also agreed more strongly that it held their attention than NSW employees (23\%);

C manufacturing employers were least likely to report the ad held their attention (16\%);

C 50+ year old employees agreed least that it told them something they already knew (6\%) while younger workers agreed most that it did have fresh information (21\%);

C fewer white collar workers thought there was fresh information ( $8 \%$ agreed) than other occupations;

C blue collar workers agreed most that it triggered them to think about their own place of works' workplace relations (38\%).
ADVERTISEMENT 1

TABLE 12B:
RINT ADVERTISING - VICTORIAN EMPLOYEES ONLY
ADVERTISEMENT 1


*Caution: small base


## Awareness of OEA Print Advertising (Victoria only)

Descriptions of the four print advertisements for the OEA were read out to Victorian respondents. One ad was about Freedom of Association, the other three concerned AWAs. All ads were read out in rotation to negate any order effect.

## A) Awareness of FOA

The following description was read out...

> This ad has a headline which says, "If you don't want to join a union, it's your call. If someone's trying to force you, call us". The ad then talks about what Freedom of Association is and what you can do if you believe your right to choose is being denied.

The research shows that just on one in four (24\%) of the total population recall seeing this ad... with employees showing greater recollection (29\%) than employers (18\%), reflective of their higher familiarity with the TV advertising.

## Aided Awareness of FOA Print Advertising Ad 1



Sub-group analysis on the page opposite in tables 12A and 12B shows a few differences...

C female employers are less aware (10\%) of the FOA print advertising than their male peers (23\%);
C similarly, female employees are slightly less aware (25\%) than their male co-workers (33\%);
C additionally, 18-29 year old employees are least aware (22\%) of the FOA print advertising.
TABLE 13A:
AIDED AWARENESS OF AWA PRINT ADVERTISING - VICTORIAN EMPLOYERS ONLY
ADVERTISEMENT 2


AIDED AWARENESS OF AWA PRINT ADVERTISING - VICTORIAN EMPLOYEES ONLY
ADVERTISEMENT 2
Base: In respondents, $\mathrm{n}=401$
*Caution: small base

## B) Awareness of AWA Print Advertising

Three different print advertisements for AWAs were measured in rotation. Results for each are outlined below.

## Advertisement 2

The following description was read for this ad...

This ad has a main headline which says, "Hundreds of employers have already entered into Australian Workplace Agreements" and in brackets it then says I just hope they are not your competitors. The ad then goes on to say how many Australian Workplace Agreements there are and the benefits they provide and how they are negotiated.

The results show that just under one in ten (9\%) are aware of having seen this ad... slightly more employees (11\%) than employers (7\%) recall it.


Analysis in tables 13A and 13B opposite shows results across the sub-groups...
C Amongst employers...
those in smaller businesses appear to recall the ad more frequently (11\%) than those in larger organisations (4\%);
those in the building/construction industry (12\%) and transport/storage (12\%) have slightly higher awareness than other sectors;
C Amongst employees...

- males report higher awareness (17\%) than females (6\%);
- those aged 30-39 are also more aware (19\%) than other age groups.
TABLE 14A:
AIDED AWARENESS OF AWA PRINT ADVERTISING - VICTORIAN EMPLOYERS ONLY
ADVERTISEMENT 3


AIDED AWARENESS OF AWA PRINT ADVERTISING - VICTORIAN EMPLOYEES ONLY
ADVERTISEMENT 3
Base: All respondents, $n=401$
*Caution: small base


## Advertisement 3

The following description was read for this ad...

This series works by having two ads, almost identical, next to each other. The headlines are slightly different on each and one says, "Australian Workplace Agreements, how they can advantage an employee. The other says how they can advantage an employer. There is then a series of bullet points about what those advantages are.

The research indicates that $7 \%$ of the total population recall this ad after hearing this description. Again it is employees (11\%) who have a higher recollection of the ad than employers (4\%).

## Aided Awareness of AWA Print Advertising Ad 3 - "Advantages" <br>  <br> 100\% <br> 100\% <br>  <br> Base: All respondents, $\mathrm{n}=401$ <br> Q7. Can you recall seeing this advertising?

Sub-segment analysis in tables 14A and 14B opposite reveals...

C employers in the transport/storage sector have higher recall of ad 3 (12\%) than other sectors of industry;

C male employees (19\%) have higher recall than female employees (3\%);

C blue collar employees (19\%) also have the highest recall of all occupations.
TABLE 15A:
AIDED AWARENESS OF AWA PRINT ADVERTISING - VICTORIAN EMPLOYERS ONLY
ADVERTISEMENT 4


TABLE 15B:
AIDED AWARENESS OF AWA PRINT ADVERTISING - VICTORIAN EMPLOYEES ONLY
ADVERTISEMENT 4

|  |  |  |  |  |  | AGE |  |  |  |  | NDUSTRY |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | TOTAL <br> (401) \% | EMPLOYEES TOTAL (200) \% | MALE <br> (94) <br> \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { FEMALE } \\ (106) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 18-29 \\ \text { YRS } \\ \text { (54) } \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 30-39 \\ \text { YRS } \\ (63) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline 40-49 \\ \text { YRS } \\ (52) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | 50+ <br> YRS <br> (31) $\%$ <br> \% | BLUE COLLAR <br> (48) | TRADES PERSON (26) | WHITE COLLAR (51) $\%$ | SALES PERSON (50) | PARA PROF (25)* |
| Yes | 8 | (10) | (13) | 8 | 6 | (16) | 8 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 10 | (16) |
| No | 92 | 90 | 87 | 92 | 94 | 84 | 92 | 90 | 92 | 92 | 90 | 90 | 84 |



## Advertisement 4

The following description was read out to respondents about this ad...

This ad has three major questions on the page. The questions are, "The award system doesn't suit my company. Can I negotiate a better deal for my employees?" And... "Can I give my employees a bonus for untaken sick leave if it helps my business run better?" And... "A valued employee just had a baby can I make it easier for both of us by letting her work from home?" The ad then talks about Workplace Agreements, what they do, how they can be negotiated and the role of the Employment Advocate in that process.

This ad has similar awareness levels as the other AWA print ads with just under one in ten ( $8 \%$ ) recalling this ad. As with the other print ads, employees show slightly higher familiarity ( $10 \%$ ) than employers (6\%).

Aided Awareness of AWA Print Advertising Ad 4 - "Questions"


Tables 15A and 15B opposite highlights the analysis across the sub-groups and reveals...

C employers in manufacturing show slightly higher recollection of the ad (11\%) compared to other sectors;
C male employees are more aware (13\%) than female employees (8\%);
C those employees aged 30-39 are more aware (16\%) than other age groups;
C para professionals also appear more aware (16\%) than other occupations.
TABLE 16A:
AWARENESS OF FOA PROVISIONS - EMPLOYERS



Base: All respondents, $n=826$

Q9A. Before today, had you heard about the Freedom of Association provisions in the Workplace Relations Act?


## Awareness of FOA Provisions

The survey asked all employers and employees their awareness and understanding of the Freedom of Association provisions in the Workplace Relations Act.

## Awareness of Provisions

Three in ten (30\%) of the total population say they have heard of the FOA provisions in the Workplace Relations Act. Employers appear more familiar with just over one-third (33\%) citing awareness compared to one in four (27\%) of employees.

Awareness of Freedom of Association Provisions


Base: All respondents, $\mathrm{n}=826$
Q9a. Before today, had you heard about the Freedom of Association provisions in the Workplace Relations Act?

Sub-group analysis in tables 16A and 16B on the page opposite shows...

C Victorian employers are more aware (36\%) than NSW employers (30\%);
C female employers are less aware (18\%) of the FOA provisions compared to male employers (42\%);
C manufacturing (39\%) and building construction (41\%) employers are most aware;
C however, unlike their employers, NSW employees are more aware (30\%) than Victorian employees (25\%);

C female employees are also less aware (19\%) than male employees (34\%);
C 18-29 year old employees are least aware (18\%) while those over 50 have highest awareness (41\%).

TABLE 17A:
UNDERSTANDING OF FOA PROVISIONS

| You have the freedom to join a union or not/union membership is not compulsory | TOTAL <br> (245) <br> \% | Employers |  |  | Employees |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | TOTAL <br> (138) \% | StATE |  | TOTAL (107) \% | STATE |  |
|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { NSW } \\ (66) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { VIC } \\ (72) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { NSW } \\ \text { (61) } \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { VIC } \\ (49) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 58 | 55 | (67) | 44 | 62 | 66 | 57 |
| Freedom of choice/make own decision | 15 | 17 | 15 | 19 | 12 | 9 | 14 |
| You can choose which groups you belong to/work related group/any group | 10 | 14 | 11 | 17 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Workplace agreement/agreement with staff that suits everybody | 7 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 7 | 5 | 8 |
| Free to associate with whomever you like | 5 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| You can't be forced into joining anything | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 8 |
| They are trying to break unions | 3 | 1 | 3 | - | 5 | 2 | 8 |
| None/nothing | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 2 | 3 | - |
| Others | 3 | 3 | - | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Don't know . . | 10 | 8 | 2 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 |

Base: All aware of FOA provisions in each segment, $\mathrm{n}=245$

## Understanding of FOA Provisions

Understanding of the FOA provisions is good amongst those who are aware of them... six in ten (58\%) say it means...
"You have the freedom to join a union or not/union membership is not compulsory."
...with employees (62\%) having slightly higher awareness than employers (55\%). This translates to $17 \%$ of the total target audience accurately describing the provisions.

Similar proportions of employers and employees say the provisions are about having freedom of choice to make your own decision (15\%).

Additionally, employers focus more on the aspect of being able to join whichever group you want (14\%) than employees do (6\%).

UNDERSTANDING OF FOA PROVISIONS

|  | TOTAL <br> (245) <br> \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { EMPLOYERS } \\ (138) \\ \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { EMPLOYEES } \\ (107) \\ \% \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| You have the freedom to join a union or not/union membership is not compulsory | 58 | 55 | (62) |
| Freedom of choice/make own decision | 15 | 17 | 12 |
| You can choose which groups you belong to/work related group/any group | 10 | 14 | 6 |
| Workplace agreement/agreement with staff that suits everybody | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Free to associate with whomever you like | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| You can't be forced into joining anything | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| They are trying to break unions | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| None/nothing | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Others | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Don't know | 10 | 8 | 12 |

Base: All aware of FOA provisions in each segment

The results in table 17A opposite show that NSW employers understand FOA provisions to be "your freedom to join a union" more so (67\%) than Victorian employers (44\%).

| $\begin{aligned} & \infty \\ & \stackrel{\sim}{\mu} \\ & \underset{\sim}{\omega} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{\mathbf{e}} \\ & \stackrel{y}{\omega} \\ & \stackrel{a}{2} \end{aligned}$ |  <br>  <br>  <br> 岂岂㤩 <br>  <br> 를 $\overline{\text { and }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 둥훙ㅇㅇㅇ <br>  | $\left\|\begin{array}{llllll} \hat{\infty} & - & \infty & \cdot & - & \ddots \end{array}\right\|-$ |
|  | $\stackrel{\text { 免 }}{\text { ¢ }}$ |  |  |
|  | 宸 | O <br> 긎충 | $\left\|\begin{array}{lllllll}  & \sigma & \& & - & - & - & \sim \\ \bar{\infty} & \ddots & \wp & \infty & - & - & \sim \end{array}\right\|$ |
| $\frac{E}{k}$ |  |  |  |
|  |  | ఫ ${ }_{5}^{\text {¢ }}$ | セ ® ®～－－～ |
|  |  |  |  |




## Attitudes to Workplace Relations

All respondents were asked their level of agreement with the following statement...
"Workplace relations are a very important issue for ensuring smooth running of a business."

The vast majority ( $75 \%$ ) of employers and employees agree on the importance of good workplace relations to the running of a business.

However, employees are less strong in their sentiment with two-thirds (67\%) saying strongly agree compared to over eight in ten (84\%) of employers agreeing strongly.


Tables 18A and 18B opposite show little variation across subgroups in age, gender, industry and occupation.
ATTITUDES TO WORKPLACE RELATIONS - EMPLOYERS

ATTITUDES TO WORKPLACE RELATIONS - EMPLOYEES

 Base: All respondents, $\mathrm{n}=826$

## Attitudes to Workplace Relations (cont'd)

Additionally, all respondents were asked their level of agreement to the statement...
"I think more now about workplace relations than I used to."

Two-thirds (66\%) agree with this statement and employers tend to agree with this sentiment (71\%) more than employees (61\%).


Analysis in tables 19A \& 19B opposite show that...

C employers in the recreational/personal services sector agree the least (63\%);

C older employees agree least (48\%).

## APPENDIX A:

 Questionnaires
## SCREENING QUESTIONS FOR EMPLOYEES:

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is (.
..) from Sweeney Research, the market research company. We are conducting a survey on workplacestoday and need to speak to EMPLOYEES. Would that be you?

IF NOT ASK TO SPEAK TO ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD WHO IS EMPLOYED - REPEAT INTRODUCTION IF NECESSARY.
In this survey, we are only interested in your opinions and we won't try to sell you anything. Can I first ask you a couple of questions about your workplace?

| SQ1. | How many people are employed at your place of work? (READ OUT) | (TERMINATE) | 4 OR LESS | 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | (CONTINUE) | OVER 4 PEOPLE | 2 |

BLUE COLLAR E.G. PROCESS WORKER, MANUAL
work? (DO NOT READ OUT)
WORKER, BUILDING EMPLOYEE, DRIVER
CHECK QUOTAS TRADES PERSON E.G. MECHANIC, PLUMBER,
TERMINATE IF CODE 6
CARPENTER, CATERING, HAIRDRESSING

SALES PERSON AND PERSONAL/CUSTOMER SERVICE POSITION.

PARA PROFESSIONALS SUCH AS TEACHERS AND NURSES
5
SENIOR MANAGEMENT SUCH AS DOCTORS OR LAWYERS . . . . . . . . 6

SQ3. RECORD STATE:
VICTORIA . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1
NSW
2

SQ4. RECORD GENDER:
MALE
. 1

FEMALE
2

SQ5. And into which of the following age groups
do you fall? (READ OUT)
18-29

30-39
2

50-59...................................................... . . . 4

60+ . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 5

SQ6. Apart from English, is any other language
spoken at your home?
YES ........................................................................ 1
NO
2

## SCREENING QUESTIONS FOR EMPLOYERS

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is (. $\qquad$ ..) from Sweeney Research, the market research company. We are conducting a survey on workplaces today and need to speak to people who are responsible for HIRING employees or workers in your organisation. In this survey, we are only interested in your opinions and we won't try to sell you anything. Can I first ask you a couple of questions about your workplace?

| SQ1. | How many people are employed at your place of work? (READ OUT) | (TERMINATE) | 4 OR LESS |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (CHECK QUOTAS) | (CONTINUE) | $\begin{array}{r} -\quad 5-19 \ldots \\ -\quad 20-200 \end{array}$ | 2 3 |
|  |  | (TERMINATE) | OVER 200 | 4 |



| SQ3. RECORD STATE: | VICTORIA.................................................... . 1 |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | NSW ......................................................... . 2 |


| SQ4. RECORD GENDER: | MALE ....................................................... 1 |
| :---: | :---: |

SQ6. Apart from English, is any other language YES.

## SECTION 1 : AWARENESS OF OEA

| Q1a. | Have you heard of the Office of Employment Advocate (OEA)? | (ASK Q1b) | YES |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

## 1b. IF "YES" AT Q1a ASK:

TV ADVERTISING
Where did you hear about the Office of MAGAZINE ADVERTISING.......................................... 2 Employment Advocate (OEA)?

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3
AT WORK ................................................................... 4

THROUGH INDUSTRY/BUSINESS CONTACTS ....................... . . 5
OTHER (SPECIFY)

1c. What does the Office of Employment Advocate do? What is their role as you see it? (RECORD VERBATIM)

## SECTION 2 : AWARENESS OF OEA CAMPAIGN

Q2a. Recently the Office of Employment Advocate (OEA) has been running some advertising
about workplace relations. Can you recall seeing advertising on TV, in the press or elsewhere?
(GO TO Q2B) $\qquad$
(GO TO Q3)
NO
2
 (MULTIPLE RESPONSE)

NEWSPAPERS ....................................................... 2

MAGAZINES ........................................................... . . . 3

OTHER (SPECIFY)

## 2c. IF NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING IN 2b ASK OTHERWISE GO TO Q2D <br> In which newspaper/s did you see the advertisement for the Office of Employment Advocate (OEA)?

NSWIACT
SYDNEY MORNING HERALD ..... 1
SUN HERALD ..... 2
SUNDAY TELEGRAPH ..... 3
CANBERRA TIMES ..... 4
NEWCASTLE HERALD ..... 5
ILLAWARRA MERCURY ..... 6
VICTORIA
HERALD SUN ..... 7
SUNDAY HERALD SUN ..... 8
AGE ..... 9
ARABIC
AL BAIRAK ..... 10
AN NAHAR ..... 11
EL TELEGRAPH ..... 12
CHINESE
AUSTRALIAN CHINESE AGE ..... 13
AUSTRALIAN CHINESE DAILY ..... 14
INDEPENDENCE DAILY ..... 15
SING TAO JIH POA ..... 16
CROATION
HRVATSKA VJESNIK (HERALD) ..... 17
NOVO HRVATSKA (NEW CROATIA) ..... 18
GREEK
ELLINKIKOSKINKAS (GREEK HERALD) ..... 19
NEA PATRIDA (NEW COUNTRY) ..... 20
GREEK NATIONAL VEMA ..... 21
NEOS KOSMOS ..... 22
ITALIAN
II GLOBO ..... 23
LA FIAMMA ..... 24
KOREAN
KOREAN HERALD ..... 25
MACEDONIAN
TODAY DENES ..... 26
POLISH
EXPRESS WIECZORNY ..... 27
PORTUGESE
O PORTUGUES NA AUSTRALIA ..... 28
SERBIAN
NOVOSTI ..... 29
SRPSKI GLAS ..... 30
SPANISH
SPANISH HERALD ..... 31
TURKISH
GUNES ..... 32
YENI VATAN ..... 33
VIETNAMESE
CHIEU DUONG ..... 34
TIVI TUAN SAN ..... 35OTHER (SPECIFY)36

## 2d. What did the advertising say or show? (RECORD VERBATIM)

2e. What was the main message or messages they were trying to get across? (RECORD VERBATIM)

## SECTION 3 : AUSTRALIAN WORKPLACE AGREEMENTS

| Q3a. | Before today, had you heard about Australian Workplace Agreements? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { (CONTINUE) } \\ & \text { (GO TO Q4) } \end{aligned}$ | YES | NO | 1 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

3b. What do you understand by that phrase, Australian Workplace Agreements - what does it mean to you? (RECORD VERBATIM)

3c. What, if anything, do you see as the benefits of Australian Workplace Agreements? (RECORD VERBATIM)

3d. What do you see as the drawbacks of Australian Workplace Agreements? (RECORD VERBATIM)

## 6.

## SECTION 4 : AIDED AWARENESS OF TV CAMPAIGN

## I'm going to read out to you a description of an adyou may have seen on TV and ask you a few questions about it... (READ OUT DESCRIPTION)

This ad starts with some footage of a large group of people walking slowly down a street in a demonstration. They are holding banners with words on them. The words on the banners are read out by a voice which says...
"Australian workers live in a free country...now you can work in one too."
"If you choose to belong to a union you can"
"If you choose not to belong, you can do that too"
"The decision is entirely up to you"
"If you are being intimidated or discriminated against, call this number...The number is written on a banner"
The ad then says...
"Freedom of Association, it's your call"
The ad finishes with the Office of Employment Advocate logo and an authorisation from the Commonwealth Government.


## SECTION 5 : AIDED AWARENESS OF PRINT CAMPAIGN

I'm now going to read out to you some descriptions of some print ads-ads that you may have seen in newspapers or magazines and ask you a few questions about them. There are four ads. I'll ask you about them one at a time. (ROTATE ORDER OF ADS - READ OUT)

## ADVERTISEMENT 1

This ad has a headline which says, "If you don't want to join a union, it's your call. If someone's trying to force you, call us". The ad then talks about what Freedom of Association is and what you can do if you believe your right to choose is being denied.

Q5. Can you recall seeing this advertising?
YES
. 1
NO 2

## ADVERTISEMENT 2

This ad has a main headline which says, "Hundreds of employers have already entered into Australian Workplace Agreements" and in brackets it then says I just hope they are not your competitors. The ad then goes on to say how many Australian Workplace Agreements there are and the benefits they provide and how they are negotiated.


## ADVERTISEMENT 3

This seriesworks by having two ads, almost identical, next to each other. The headlines are slightly different on each and one says, "Australian Workplace Agreements, how they can advantage an employee. The other says how they can advantage an employer. There is then a series of bullet points about what those advantages are.

Q7. Can you recall seeing this advertising?
YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1
NO
2

## ADVERTISEMENT 4

This ad hasthree major questions on the page. The questions are, "The award system doesn't suit my company. Can I negotiate a better deal for my employees?" And... "Can I give my employees a bonus for untaken sick leave if it helps my business run better?" And... "A valued employee just had a baby can I make it easier for both of us by letting her work from home?" The ad then talks about Workplace Agreements, what they do, how they can be negotiated and the role of the Employment Advocate in that process.

Q8. Can you recall seeing this advertising?

YES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1
8.

## SECTION 6 : FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION



## SECTION 7 : ATTITUDES TO WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT

Q10. I am now going to read out to you two statements other people have made about workplace relations. For each one, l'd like you to tell me if you "agree strongly", "agree a little", "neither agree nor disagree", "disagree a little", or "disagree strongly". (ROTATE ORDER - CIRCLE START)

| 1. Workplace relations are a very important issue for ensuring smooth running of a business . . . | AGREE STRONGLY | Agree A <br> LITTLE | NEITHER/ NOR | DISAGREE A LITTLE | DISAGREE <br> STRONGLY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 2. I think more about workplace relations now than I used to | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

## THANK AND CLOSE.

(say) Once again my name is (.........) from Sweeney Research, the market research company. Our phone number is 1800357739 should you need to contact us.

| DATE OF INTERVIEW: |
| :--- |
| RESPONDENT'S NAME: |
| PHONE NUMBER: |
| ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE): |
| "I certify that the information contained in this interview is true and accurate and was carried out in strict accordance |
| with my instructions and the MRSA International Code of Marketing and Social Research Practice." |
| SIGNED: |


[^0]:    Base: All aware of OEA in each segment
    Caution: small base

[^1]:    * Note all other responses $1 \%$ or less
    $0 \varsigma \varepsilon=u$ ‘s $\forall M \forall$ łо әлеме ॥| :әseg

[^2]:    Base: All aware of AWAs, $n=350$

    * Note all other responses $1 \%$ or less

[^3]:    Base: All respondents, $\mathrm{n}=826$

[^4]:    Base: All recall FOA advertising on prompting, $n=537$

