

# We need unions, now more than ever

**We can't say for certain if we will be in a recession in 2009. But we can be sure that times will get tougher.**

Jobs are already beginning to go at a faster rate – at Ford, at The Age, on construction sites and three Melbourne universities.

In recessions, bosses set out to slash the workforce and cut back on hard-won terms and conditions for those who remain.

That's why Howard brought in

WorkChoices, to weaken our unions and make it easier for employers to dump workers.

Disgracefully, Rudd has turned his back on the union movement that contributed so mightily to his win.

**www.  
solidarity.  
net.au**

There are some welcome changes, like the scrapping of AWAs. But the bulk of WorkChoices remains – WorkChoices lite.

Yet we need unions now more than ever. We need to defend ourselves against the attacks of

**Don't let Noel go to jail**  
**Rally: Tuesday, 2 December, at 9am on the corner of St Kilda Road and Toorak Road (tram stop 22)**  
**Part of a national day of action. [www.rightsonsite.org.au](http://www.rightsonsite.org.au)**

today and the ones on the horizon tomorrow.

That's why all of us, regardless of which industry we work in, should get behind Noel Washington.

Noel is a senior official with the construction union, the CFMEU.

He faces the possibility of six months' jail under WorkChoices legislation for the "crime" of refusing to say what happened

at a lawful union meeting, held in workers' own time off the job.

The bosses hope that by jailing Noel, they can intimidate us all.

There will be a mass union rally at 9am on 2 December in Noel's defence, on the corner of Toorak and St Kilda roads.

**Join the rally and bring workmates and friends. Defend Noel to defend yourself.**

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**Join the fight for a better world:**  
**Join the socialists**  
Name .....  
Address .....  
.....  
Phone .....  
Email .....  
Return to Solidarity, GPO Box 1473, Melbourne 3001  
or email [melbourne@solidarity.net.au](mailto:melbourne@solidarity.net.au)  
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## Walk Against Warming

Enough talk. It's time for action.

**Saturday, 15 November**

**1pm at Federation Square**

**[www.environmentvictoria.org.au](http://www.environmentvictoria.org.au)**