

The BroadAgenda: News Brief

This week's radar ...

February Week 4

This week all eyes have been on the work place. The Fair Work Commission cut Sunday penalty rates, with the female dominated retail industry copping the biggest blow. Meanwhile bad press due to poor numbers of women has forced the Victorian Liberal party and NSW Trains to holler for more women. In Trump world, the President's campaign advisor has a new spin on anti-Trump protestors; according to Kellyanne Conway they ... "just have a problem with women in power". And while all the buzz talk was around the Oscar's oops moment, more sober souls were focused on the ongoing pay disparity between white women actors and those of colour.

In the news ...

Australia

[Young Women Are Really Going To Hurt When Penalty Rates Are Cut](#)

23/02/2017, *Buzzfeed News*

- The Australian retail industry employs more than 600,000 females, making it the second largest employer of females in the country
- Over a quarter (26.7%) of all employed women under 25 work in retail, according to the latest figures from the National Retail Association
- *"For those that are financially independent, penalty rates are the reason they make rent,"* according to a former Just Group manager

['Have a crack' at promotion, Eccles tells young women](#)

24/02/2017, *The Mandarin*

- The gender ratio in Victoria's Department of Premier and Cabinet is reaching parity within the executive ranks
- Secretary Chris Eccles believes it's the responsibility of leaders to encourage younger women to seek out promotions
- *"You have every right to have a crack in the same way that your male counterparts are prepared to have a crack,"* says Eccles

[Large employers still extending parental leave incentives despite government plans](#)

22/02/2017, *Women's Agenda*

- Primary carers employed by PepsiCo ANZ are now able to access an additional four weeks of paid parental leave, with the provider offering 16 weeks of leave in total
- PepsiCo's senior HR director Shiona Watson says that politics has nothing to do with the updated policy
- *"We made the decision to review and enhance our parental leave offering because we are*

committed to working families," she told Women's Agenda

[Zealous Guy: Liberals still struggling to get women picked for the plum spots](#)

24/02/2017, *The Age*

- Victorian Opposition Leader Matthew Guy said he wanted a 10% increase in the number of female Liberal MPs at the next election, following the 2014 election
- Of the six pre-selections held since 2014, only one woman has won
- *"The community expect us to have more women. Progress is happening but it is going to take time."*

[Female train drivers focus of new campaign to change male-dominated industry](#)

24/02/2017, *ABC News*

- The New South Wales Government has announced a new campaign, aimed at employing more females as train drivers
- With 1,200 train drivers employed in NSW only 6% are female
- The Government says there is no reason train drivers should be predominately male

[World Wide](#)

[Nike's women in sports ad strikes nerve in Arab world](#)

24/02/2017, *Sydney Morning Herald*

- A Nike commercial released online last week shows Arab women fencing and boxing
- The commercial has caused controversy over its attempt to change Arab women stereotypes
- In Saudi Arabia physical education is not allowed for females in schools, as female athleticism is deemed 'un-Islamic', according to the author

[TAX is a feminist issue: Why national budgets need to take gender into account](#)

23/02/2017, *The Economist*

- A report in 2016 from the British House of Commons Library suggested that between 2010-2015 women bore the cost of 85% of Government issued cuts
- cuts to welfare benefits and increased taxes were seen to effect women in particular
- As women in the UK typically earn less than their male counterparts and rely more on benefits, the cuts affected them disproportionately

[Kellyanne Conway: women who oppose Trump "just have a problem with women in power"](#)

23/02/2017, *Vox*

- US White House counsellor Kellyanne Conway attempted to defend Trump's record with women at the Conservative Political Action Conference
- *"One thing that's been a little bit disappointing and revealing and that I hope will get better is, turns out that a lot of women just have a problem with women in power,"* Conway said

Dispatches from ...

[How girl power is beating malaria in Tanzania](#)

22/02/2017, *Marie Claire*

- Women in Tanzania are joining together in community groups to help fight the cost of malaria

- The group members supports each other by paying an initial fee (less than \$2) to pool funds, which are then made available should some of the members face financial burden
- The group also provides vital education about malaria and sexually transmitted diseases

Footnote fodder ...

[Thousands of furious Trump fans can't stop visiting a website that pretends Clinton won](#)
27/02/2017, *The Age*

- hillarybeattrump.org is a satirical news site, designed to get under the skin of Trump and his supporters
- While the site is partially meant to serve as a refuge from reality for 'left wing' members, it is also used to troll Trump supporters
- *"I wanted it to be a joyful middle finger,"* said the site's founder. *"I didn't want to wallow or argue with people who can't be argued with."*

[Why No One Mentions Black Women When They Talk About The Pay Gap In Hollywood](#)
25/02/2017, *Refinery29*

- After Viola Davis won an Emmy for outstanding lead actress in a drama in 2015, making her the first black woman to do so, she said *"You cannot win an Emmy for roles that are simply not there"*
- One and a half years since this historic moment, the question is still being asked as to why there is remains a disparity between white and black actresses

[What's the best way to create a diverse workplace? Ditch diversity programmes](#)
27/02/2017, *The Guardian*

- It was reported earlier this month that Google's diversity program cost \$2.65m but failed to create a major change in the gender/race composition of its workplace
- over the past two years the number of women in technical positions at Google has increased by just 1%, despite *"diversity rhetoric"*

In case you missed it ...

[Controversial new Russia law will dismiss first-time offenders for domestic assault](#)
9/02/2017, *News.com.au*

- Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed into a law a bill that will ease the punishment for domestic violence offenders, making it even more difficult to hold abusers accountable for their actions
- The law reduces the penalty for serious violence against family members when it is an individual's first offence and it does not result in serious injury.
- Government statistics suggest that 12,000 Russian women die annually from domestic violence every year, equating to at least one death per hour.