

**THE SALVATION ARMY AUSTRALIAN TERRITORIES
POSITIONAL STATEMENT**

WORK

The Salvation Army regards work as honourable and God-ordained. In caring for creation, in producing food and the other necessities of life we are partners with God. Therefore, every person should participate, as far as possible, in work and do so, conscientiously.

It is equally vital that society be structured so that there is a worthwhile role for each member. Although we as individuals are not defined by work roles, those roles are important to our self-esteem. We all need to feel that we are filling a worthwhile role in society. People without work often suffer a loss of confidence in themselves and their abilities.

In all societies, there are valuable members whose contribution is unpaid. This group includes not only family carers but also the elderly, the very young and those who choose to work in a voluntary capacity. Society throughout government and other action should see that every person is adequately recompensed for the contribution each makes.

In the more usual work situation of an employee who contracts labour to an employer there are obligations on both sides. Both groups should recognise their own responsibilities and the rights of the other. Employees should give a fair day's work and in return employers should see that employees receive a fair day's pay.

Approved by IHQ, 21st July 2003