



# A rollercoaster is no place for a newborn

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE COALITION'S PAID PARENTAL LEAVE POLICY

#FairTimeToCare

**2**  
March 2010

Tony Abbott promises PPL scheme of 26 weeks of actual salary capped at \$75,000.

**3**  
8 March 2012 (International Women's Day)

Daily Telegraph reported: "Tony Abbott says his six-month paid parental leave scheme is a 'signature policy' and would be one of the 'defining marks of his leadership'."

**1**  
July 2002

Tony Abbott said: "Compulsory paid maternity leave? Over this Government's dead body, frankly."

**4**  
May 2014

Abbott announces reduced cap on his PPL scheme from \$75,000 to \$50,000.

**5**  
February 2015

Abbott takes his PPL scheme off the table entirely to be recast in a new form.

**6**  
June & Dec 2015

Fed Govt announces reduced cap on PPL scheme from \$50,000 to 18 weeks at minimum wage (currently \$11,824) MINUS dollar amount of employer PPL. December variation on cap: MINUS number of weeks of employer PPL.

*Academic research released January 2016 shows low paid workers could lose \$10,000 under current Turnbull Govt version of PPL <http://bit.ly/theage-ppl160113>*



The current national PPL scheme began 1 January 2011 set at 18 weeks of minimum wage (currently \$11,824) and is not affected by PPL negotiated from employers (they're deemed to top up the national scheme). Before 2011 Australia was one of only two OECD countries without a national PPL scheme. Only about 55% had access to PPL. From 2011, access to PPL increased to about 95% of working primary carers.