

I write to have my input - not matter how small- in this issue.

My son has a mental disability which, is easily always misunderstood with those don't understand anything about this illness.

He was employed as an apprentice cabinetmaker when he had his first episode and, after a year away from work returned to his former work.

His employer, who did not understand his illness, gave him very little support (even though CRS was involved in the rehabilitation/return to work process) and expected him to have the same output as those of the other staff. To cut a long story short, he was dismissed from his job with 8 months of returning to work and today he is on a disability pension and only works on a casual basis.

I tried my hardest to try to change his boss' decision at the time, because I knew if he was dismissed through lack of confidence alone he would not lead a very productive life, and true to my word that is happening now.

When I approached his boss about the issues, he was ignorant about his health condition and said he did not want to be held responsible for any relapse.

I think disability discrimination in the workforce is an issue which should be addressed so that this section of people are given a fair go

*Jenny Guneratne*