



Women unhappy with wage gap

Anna Brain

Nine out of 10 women believe an unfair gender wage gap exists, and they're not happy about it.

And 46 per cent of women think they are getting paid less than men for doing the same job, a survey shows.

Women's Forum of Australia

Director Melinda Tankard Reist said the problem has existed for far too long.

"It's unbelievable that it's still happening in this day and age," she said.

"Women are vulnerable and can be penalised for trying to advance themselves. They have a lot to lose."

Head Group managing director Gillian Franklin said com-

panies needed to realise they were disadvantaging women.

"I don't think some companies are even aware of it," she said.

"They need to show leadership in making sure all their employees are paid equally."

The survey also showed women feel they are given fewer opportunities than their male counterparts, and want

greater transparency from their employers.

Ninety per cent of women surveyed backed a call by the ACTU for mandatory annual reporting of gender-pay data.

The call followed data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics which showed women earn on average 16 per cent less than men, a difference of nearly \$200 a week.