



NOTICES

WOMEN AND THE LAW

The National Women's Justice Coalition

The National Women's Justice Coalition was formed in 1995 and aims to provide a national voice on, and influence policy on, women's justice issues as well as promoting awareness of barriers to women's legal equality. The Coalition has already been active lobbying government and plans to continue its efforts in areas including the legal needs of indigenous women, women's employment rights and sexual assault and the Model Criminal Code. The Coalition publishes a newsletter reporting its activities. For more information send your details by post to GPO Box 3148 Canberra, ACT 2601, by telephone (06) 247 2075, by fax (06) 257 3070 or e-mail nwjc@ozemail.com.au.

'A Law for Women' Radio Program in NSW

Radio 2SER-FM, in association with the Law Foundation of NSW began broadcasting the 'A Law for Women' series on 5 June 1996. The series comprises ten weekly programs in which lawyers and community workers explain legal processes and advise women where to find information and assistance, and women speak of their experiences of law. Program topics include women and the law, family law, domestic violence, parents and young offenders, employment, social security, immigration, tenancy, women and debt, and women and small business. The programs are broadcast on 2SER-FM 107.3FM and various NSW community radio stations on Wednesdays at 9.30 p.m. and repeated at 9.00 a.m. on Fridays. The series is also available on cassette. For details on the program or to order cassettes, contact Radio 2SER-FM on (02) 330 3000.

PUBLICATIONS

Art and the Law

The Arts Law Centre of Australia is calling for subscriptions to 'Artlines', a bi-monthly journal. 'Artlines' includes articles on the legal and ethical issues raised by developments in digital technology, information on recent developments in digital art, profiles of people and organisations working in new media, and news and reviews. The journal is aimed at those who work in the arts

industry. Subscriptions cost \$30 with a discount for those who subscribe to the Arts Law Centre of Australia. For a subscription form phone (02) 356 2566 or 1800 221 6475.

PIAC Guides to Public Interest Remedies

The Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) has issued a set of fact sheets explaining the nature, procedures and circumstances in which some legal remedies can be used to pursue public-interest issues. The fact sheets cover freedom of information applications, judicial review of administrative actions, class actions, court interventions as 'friend of the court' and complaints under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The sheets are available from Gisela Ibarra at PIAC on (02) 299 7833 for \$2 each.

HAPPENINGS

PERIN Win for PILCH

Under the Penalty Enforcement Registration of Infringement Notices (PERIN) system people can be gaoled for non payment of traffic and parking fines. The Public Interest Law Clearing House recently assisted a 49-year-old woman imprisoned in Fairlea Women's Prison to secure a Supreme Court order issuing her a custodial community permit. The effect of the permit is to allow the woman to complete the remainder of her 52 day period of imprisonment by way of unpaid community work. The permit was initially refused by the Office of Corrections according to an internal policy refusing such permits where more than 30 days were owed. The Clearing House says the decision has the potential to allow those imprisoned under the PERIN system to do community work instead of going to gaol.

Closure of regional Family Court Registries

The closure of regional sub-registries of the Family Court at Mackay and Bendigo is likely to severely affect separating families in these regional areas according to Ms Dodds, the National President of the Australian Association of Social Workers. The closures mean the loss of local access to the Family Court Counselling Service, the only supplier of specialised counselling to assist people make decisions about

their own, and their children's future after separation. Ms Dodds predicted it would take some time for other agencies to develop the specialised skills and knowledge necessary to perform the work undertaken by Court Counsellors.

CONFERENCES

Counselling and Culture Conference

Organisers: The Institute of Counselling and Centacare
Date: 26-8 September 1996
Venue: Macquarie University, Sydney
Contact: tel (02) 417 8352; fax (02) 417 8401

Cultural Heritage Conference

The Centre for Applied Philosophy at Flinders University is organising a conference on Cultural Heritage (Philosophical and Legal Aspects) on 3-4 October 1996. For more information contact tel (08) 201 3198.

Government Information and Public Policy Getting the full picture

Date: 3-4 October 1996
Venue: Theatrette, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie St, Sydney.
Cost: \$435 includes working papers, lunch, morning and afternoon teas.
Sessions cover: •quality of government information •technology of parliamentary information •how consumers get information •information and civic education.

Contact: Maureen Henninger tel 02 385 3589 fax 02 385 3430 email: m.henninger@unsw.edu.au

Clinical Legal Education Conference

Date: 10 July 1996
Venue: University of South Australia
Contact: David Balmford, tel 08 201 3884 fax 08 201 3630

Feminism in Transit

Venue: Australian National University, Canberra
Date: 19-20 July 1996
Contact: Heather Brook, tel 06 249 3049
email: brook@coombs.anu.edu.au