

ALRC Inquiry on Forfeiture of Proceeds of Crime

The Australian Law Reform Commission has been requested by the federal Attorney-General to enquire into and report on various issues relating to the forfeiture of the proceeds of crime.

They have supplied a pamphlet introducing the enquiry which sets out the full terms of reference and goes on to identify some of the issues that, following preliminary discussions with stakeholders, the Commission believes it must address.

These issues raise matters of relevance to:

- courts, judges and magistrates
- legal practitioners, in particular but not exclusively those acting for the defence, including providers of legal aid
- law enforcement bodies
- companies and persons who have interests in properties liable to forfei-

ture, such as finance companies and banks;

- victims of crime, and victims of crime support groups;
- civil liberties organisations; and
- business generally, and in particular in relation to record keeping and production requirements.

The ALRC aims to release, by the end of August, a discussion paper which will form the basis for wide-ranging public consultation.

This Society has been invited to make submission on any of the issues raised in the pamphlet as well as any other relevant issues.

Submissions are due at the Law Reform Commission by **19 June**.

A copy of the pamphlet is available from the Law Society or from the Commission's homepage on <http://uniserve.edu.au/alrc/>

Male Circumcision – Prosecution of Participating Doctors?

Dr Gregory Boyle, Professor of Psychology and Director of Men's Health research Centre at Bond University has released a paper on male circumcision in which he suggests that doctors who perform this practice on unconsenting minors may be liable to prosecution.

He bases this suggestion on a 1993 Queensland Law Reform Commission determination that under a strict reading of the criminal code, circumcision could be seen as a criminal act.

He suggests further that genital mutilation – irrespective of gender – contravenes the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Members interested in reading the paper in its entirety can get a copy from the Law Society.

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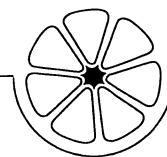
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