



MENTIONS

INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY LAW AND POLICY PROJECT

The International Disability Law and Policy Project (the Project) is currently seeking law student volunteers to conduct research on the world's existing disability laws, weigh the pros and cons of various policy models, and assist disability activists worldwide in formulating and advocating for legislative and judicial solutions appropriate for their local needs. The Project is affiliated with Disabled Peoples International (DPI), an international non-governmental organisation with members in some 120 countries that works closely with inter-governmental bodies such as the United Nations and the International Labor Organisation in promoting the human rights of people with disabilities. The Project represents a unique opportunity for students interested in comparative, human rights, disability, or public interest law to collaborate with legal professionals abroad and gain practical experience with the laws of many nations. Not an academic exercise, the Project provides volunteers with the chance to work for an international client base of disabled people trying to make concrete improvements in the quality of their lives. Student hours are flexible, and the Project can accommodate volunteers who wish to make small or substantial time commitments. All are welcome to contribute, but students with a knowledge of foreign legal systems or languages are especially encouraged to apply.

For more information:
email danf@viconet.com (Daniel) at the Project.

NATIONAL SORRY DAY 26 MAY 1998

A Sorry Day is being held exactly a year after the tabling in Federal Parliament of *Bringing Them Home*, the report of the National Inquiry into the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families. The report reveals the extent of forced removal, which went on for 150 years into the early 1970s; its consequences in terms of broken families, shattered physical and mental health, loss of language, culture and connection to traditional land and community, and the enormous distress of many of its victims today.

The report recommended that a Sorry Day be held — a day when all

Australians can express their sorrow for the whole tragic episode in Australia's history and celebrate the beginning of a new understanding. Many of the 'stolen generations' told the Inquiry that this would be a necessary part of their healing. Many non-Indigenous Australians, having learnt the history of forced removal, wish to apologise for the past practice and its contemporary consequences on the health and incarceration rates of Indigenous peoples.

Sorry Day invites every Australian and every community to shape a ceremony which, by the frankness of its acknowledgment of past wrongs towards the 'stolen generations', and by the sincerity of its commitment to overcome racism, unites the community. Sorry Day will be an important start to honouring the survival, strength and resilience of the stolen generations. Contact your local Sorry Day committee to find out details of events and how you can be involved.

ACT: David Hunter tel 02 6288 0679 dmhjrm@spirit.com.au
John Bond tel 02 6281 0940 jbond@hubble.dialix.com.au

NSW: Jason Field tel 02 9550 5666 aecg@s054.aone.net.au
fax 02 95503361

SA: Glenn Giles tel 08 8278 4270 ggiles@chomsky.arts.adelaide.edu.au

VIC: Greg Thompson thompson@gwva.org.au
tel 03 9287 2307

WA: Trish Cowcher guthrier@cbs.curtin.edu.au
tel 08 9381

TAS: Greg Thompson (temporarily) thompson@gwva.org.au
tel 03 9287 2307

QLD: Yanetta Reid Wally Tallis tel 07 3891 2554 linkupq@tpgi.com.au
National Homepage:
<http://www.austlii.edu.au/rsjlibrary/sorry>

WOMEN AND THE LAW INTEREST GROUP

If you would like to be a member of this interest group or if you are interested in presenting a paper at the Women and Law Interest Group during the 1998 Australian Law Teachers Association Conference please contact Heather Douglas.
email: h.douglas@law.gu.edu.au

WOMEN'S ABORTION ACTION CAMPAIGN

The Women's Abortion Action Campaign needs donations to assist with:

- their campaign in solidarity with Western Australian women, and for them to play a part in a national campaign for the repeal of abortion laws across all States and Territories;
- in fulfilment of their undertaking to assist a woman on a low-income to obtain a late-term abortion;
- to assist delegates from Queensland and Tasmania attend the Abortion Rights Network of Australia (ARNA) annual meeting in May;
- to send WAAC delegates to the annual national meeting of ARNA.

Make cheques payable to Women's Abortion Action Campaign and post to: PO Box A2233, Sydney South, NSW 2000
tel/fax 02 9569 3819

CONFERENCES

Community Legal Centres Annual National Conference

Theme: Human Rights
Date: 8-10 September 1998
Venue: The Masonic Centre, Castlereagh St, Sydney
Contact: Margaret Mayes
tel 02 9743 6565 fax 02 9743 5841
email: fssa@world.net

8th National Conference of the Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia

Date: 24-28 October 1998
Venue: Hobart
Contact: Michael Foster
tel 03 6235 1111 fax 03 6223 1118

Representing Justice: Design, Analysis and Planning for Courts

An international conference on court architecture in practice and in theory
Date: 26-27 June 1998
Venue: University of Wollongong
Contact: Dr Rick Mohr, Centre for Court Policy and Administration, Law Faculty, University of Wollongong
tel 02 4221 4632 fax 02 4221 3188
email: rick_mohr@uow.edu.au