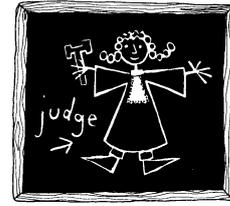


LEGAL STUDIES

Is it time to 'move-on'?



James Farrell's article *All the right moves? Police 'move-on' powers in Victoria* questions the proposal to introduce laws to allow police to deal with anti-social behaviour in public spaces.

In the following activity, students will consider how open public spaces are used, as well as the rights and responsibilities of individuals using open public spaces. Students will compare approaches adopted both within Australia and internationally, and prepare a poster analysing the proposed change in the law.

Task 1

1. Think about the term 'public open spaces'. Working individually, list the different areas that you would consider 'open public spaces'.
2. Working in pairs:
 - a. Compare your lists of public open spaces;
 - b. Draw up a chart like the one below. List the different rights and responsibilities of individuals when they use open public spaces.

Rights of individuals using public spaces

Responsibilities of individuals using public spaces

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3. Compare your responses with those of other students in the class. Draw up a class definition of 'public open spaces' and a list of the rights and responsibilities of individuals using public spaces.

Task 2

After reading the article, work in small groups to answer the following questions:

1. What does the term 'move-on' power refer to? Suggest reasons why these laws may be necessary.
2. The law about the power of the police to direct people using public space to 'move-on' differs from state to state? Why do you think these laws are different?
3. Outline the reasons why Victoria is considering the introduction of a law to allow police to direct people to 'move-on'.

4. a. Using a chart like the one below, summarise the law in Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Move-on Laws

Australia	
Australian Capital Territory	
New South Wales	
Queensland	
South Australia	
International	
United Kingdom	
United States of America	

- b. What do you consider to be the most significant similarities in these laws? Why?
- c. What do you think are the most important differences? Why?

Task 3

Working in pairs, prepare a poster on the effectiveness of 'move-on' legislation. Your poster should include:

- A diagram identifying the impact of crime on the community;
- A written explanation of how the use of public space may impact on perceptions of community safety;
- A chart identifying the arguments for and against giving police the power to direct people to 'move-on';
- Present a conclusion — do you think that police should have the power to direct people who are using public spaces to 'move-on'?

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