

From the Editor...

This issue of *Reform* has adopted the theme of Older People and the Law. This theme arises from a growing awareness of legal issues that have a particular impact on older people. It is therefore timely that *Reform* identifies and looks in closer detail at some of these matters.

Professor John McCallum and Jeanine Parson's article (page 5) leads in with particular legal and policy issues regarding older workers. Articles from Human Rights Commissioner, Dr Sev Ozdowski, and the Commonwealth Attorney-General, the Hon Daryl Williams (beginning on page 11), continue the employment theme by looking at the issue of age discrimination and what is being done at the federal government level.

Sue Field (page 20) then introduces the growing field of 'elder law' and the range of issues that fall into this area. The emerging concept of family or care agreements is examined by Brian Herd (page 23), and Margaret Hall provides a Canadian perspective on the same topic. Prue Vines (page 34) looks at cross-cultural issues in will drafting, while Professor Loane Skene and Brenda Masters (page 38) have considered the extent of legal rights over the body after death.

Roslyn Monro has written an eye-opening article about the existence of elder abuse in our community, while our colleagues from the South African Law Commission have provided an overview of their current inquiry into decision-making by and for those incapable of making their own decisions (page 47).

An article from Justice Richard Chisholm considers cases in the Family Court involving grandparental access to grandchildren (page 53).

This issue of *Reform* also includes an obituary for the Hon Dr Peter Nygh who, amongst many other activities and achievements, was a former Commissioner of the ALRC.

Lani Blackman
Acting Editor, *Reform*

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Reform wishes to thank the members of the Editorial Advisory Committee for their contribution to this edition of the journal. Committee members are:

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When preparing contributions, contributors should note the following points:

- 1/ Electronic lodgement of articles (by email or disc) is preferred. Articles should be in RTF, Word or WordPerfect formats. Discs should be IBM-compatible. Articles may also be submitted in hardcopy, by fax or mail.
- 2/ All articles submitted on paper should be typed in double-space on one side only of A4 paper.
- 3/ The name, address and phone number of the author must be attached to the article.
- 4/ Articles should be between 1000 and 3500 words in length. Shorter articles are welcome. Contributions to 'Reform Roundup' should be under 1000 words.
- 5/ Articles submitted to *Reform* should be in final form as corrections on proofs will be limited to literal errors or changes necessitated by legal developments.
- 6/ Articles submitted to *Reform* for publication must be original and not currently under consideration for publication elsewhere, except by prior arrangement.
- 7/ The Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) reserves the right to republish all material on its website on the Internet and to use all accepted articles for promotion of the journal.
- 8/ The ALRC reserves the right to edit submitted articles so they conform with *Reform's* writing style. The Editor will seek to contact contributors to verify changes before publication.

Style

- 1/ All articles must be written in clear, accessible language.
- 2/ Contributors should seek to minimise the use of endnotes.
- 3/ All legislation, international instruments, organisations and cases referred to should be clearly identifiable.
- 4/ Gender neutral language should be used.
- 5/ Avoid unnecessary punctuation. Abbreviations should not be followed by a full stop.