



Attentive delegates at the Birth Trauma conference held at The Regent, Sydney, in March 1998

# Birth Trauma Litigation Conference



Les Weisbrod, Morgan & Weisbrod, Dallas, Texas, presents at the conference



APLA members Karen Stott, David Hirsch and Sasha Shearman at the Birth Trauma conference

On 2 and 3 March 1998, APLA convened a specialist conference on Birth Trauma Litigation, in conjunction with the Birth Trauma Litigation Group of the American Trial Lawyers Association. APLA believes the conference was a "first" for Australian lawyers, addressing both medical and legal issues in depth.

Les Weisbrod of Morgan & Weisbrod (Dallas, Texas) and Bill Madden of Blessington Judd (Sydney, NSW) chaired the event, with twelve legal and medical speakers from Australia and the USA. The medical specialists covered obstetrics, neonatology, neuroradiology, placental pathology and blood gas analysis. Two case studies were utilised to demonstrate the medical topics. Legal speakers addressed causation, common defences and damages along with life expectancy arguments.

APLA was very pleased with the feedback from the conference participants and will consider similar conferences in the future. Your suggestions would be appreciated. Some papers from the conference are available. Membership application forms for the Birth Trauma Litigation Group are available from the APLA office.

The assistance of all the speakers and the ATLA Birth Trauma Litigation Group was essential to the success of the conference, and is gratefully acknowledged.



The expert presenters at the Birth Trauma Litigation conference included Len Levy SC, Sydney; Bill Madden, Blessington Judd, Sydney; John Blume, Blume Goldfaden, New Jersey; Brian McKeen, Bleakley & McKeen, Detroit; Dr Jeffery Pomerance, Greater Baltimore Medical Centre, Maryland; Les Weisbrod, Morgan & Weisbrod, Dallas; Dr Yee Khong, Womens & Childrens Hospital, Adelaide.