

Call for submissions to the ISAA *Review*

Call for submissions ISAA Review, Volume 18 Number 1 2020

Theme: Law and Life

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While the law serves many purposes and functions in society its principal purposes are setting standards, maintaining order, resolving disputes, and protecting liberties and rights. The sources of law are constitutional, statutory and case law and, in the case of the latter two, the lawmakers are legislators – that is, politicians – and judges respectively. The relationship between law and society is dynamic as the law needs to change as society changes – *Mabo* and marriage equality, for example. Significant individuals such as Mary Gaudron, Australia's first female High Court justice (1987), emerge in changed circumstances. Now, three of the seven justices, including the Chief Justice, are women.

Several current debates illustrate contested areas of law and life: the press freedom campaign about the public's right to know, onerous defamation laws and FOI processes; the protection of whistleblowers; concerns about the erosion of civil liberties and human rights abuses through legislation under the guise of security and border protection; the role of civil disobedience; religious freedom legislation versus antidiscrimination laws; the pros and cons of a Bill of Rights; and the development of legal reforms in areas such as voluntary euthanasia and the decriminalisation of abortion.

Politicians (lawmakers) often campaign on law and order issues and judges are regularly attacked for 'soft sentencing'. Does this mean politics has taken over law making and scrutiny? Is Australia complying with its international treaty obligations concerning refugees? Is Australia's regulatory framework adequate in relation to matters such as the behaviour of banks, building compliance issues, the challenge of climate change and domestic violence?

These few sentences sketch the varied impacts of law on individuals, institutions and society and demonstrate the many contested areas and significant legal issues arising in everyday life.

These interactions of law and life provide fertile possibilities for comment from a range of disciplines about current developments, historical parallels and significant individuals. ISAA members are invited to submit articles accordingly.

Deadline for copy: 30 May 2020

Articles should be 3000-5000 words: submit [to cjennett@ozemail.com.au](mailto:cjennett@ozemail.com.au). Please note that papers submitted to the ISAA *Review* go through a refereeing process.

Opinion pieces should be about 1,000 words: submit [to cjennett@ozemail.com.au](mailto:cjennett@ozemail.com.au)

Submissions for Creative Corner should be approximately 500 words

Book reviews: submit to Dr Alan Roberts alanrobe3@gmail.com

All authors of papers that have been accepted for publication please include your name plus short 'bio' (around 50 words) and a photograph.

All submissions should follow the ISAA Style Guide attached.