

'the advantage of pulling the law reform report to the top of the pile requiring attention'.

- *profile of LRC.* A high public profile on the part of a law reform commission builds up a momentum for action.
- *consultants.* Involving consultants from all affected disciplines, including key public servants who will later have the responsibility for implementing the report, is often a key factor in success.

The Judge ends with a plea for the acceptance of institutional law reform as an alternative to the restraint of the judiciary and the pressure on Parliament preventing it from pursuing issues. To succeed, however, in adapting our democracy to the needs of changing times, more work is needed to refine and improve that institution.

Who will solve the Kirby law reform equation?

At stake is nothing less than the successful adaptation of Parliamentary democracy to the needs of a time of rapid social, technological and legal change. The topic is one deserving of the attention of lawyers. But it is also one worthy of the attention of political scientists concerned about the survival of the least dangerous form of human government.

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odds and ends

□ *Reform* was recently reviewed in the May 1988 issue of the journal *Media Information Australia*. The reviewer said:

The January 1988 issue, No 49, continues the good record on this informative journal

which is clearly the least partisan and least passionate of law-popularising and summarising journals. Of the 14 longer items, 'Media Law' crisply summarises advertising time standards deregulation, limits for ownership of radio stations and the current discussions about the role of the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal. Ms Deidre O'Connor's already famous 'toothless tiger' comment is preserved here for future researchers. For keeping reasonably informed on issues such as environmental law, food irradiation, class actions, Aborigines, prisons it's hard to beat *Reform*, especially if supplemented by the Legal Service Bulletin.

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letter to the editor

Eminent jurist Glanville Williams writes from Jesus College, Cambridge:

Just a line to express my appreciation of *Reform* which you so kindly send me. It is an invaluable survey of development. Thank you and warm wishes.

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obituary

Judge Trevor Martin QC

Reform regretfully records the death of the late Judge Trevor Martin QC of the New South Wales District Court. Judge Martin had been a consultant to the ALRC on its evidence reference between 1981 and 1984. He was a Commissioner of the NSWLRC from 1976 to 1982 and a Judge of the District Court from 1973 to 1983. Judge Martin was Vice President of the Council for Civil Liberties from 1970 to 1973 and the Challis Lecturer in Evidence at the University of Sydney from 1964 to 1973.