

International Human Rights Law: Use, Abuse and on the Loose in Australia

Friday 11 July 1997

Supreme Court Building, Darwin - 8.15am - 1.00pm

Presenter:

Robert McCorquodale, BEc, LLB (Syd), LLM (Cambridge)

Robert McCorquodale is Deputy Dean (Graduate Studies) and a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Law at the Australian National University. Prior to this he was a fellow and Lecturer at St John's College, University of Cambridge from 1988 to 1995. He has written two books (including *Cases and Material on International Law*) and over thirty articles in the field of international law and constitutional law, focusing on international human rights law. He has advised governments and peoples on issues of international law, especially the right of self-determination, and has assisted in the drafting of new constitutions.

Programme:

8.15 Registration

8.30 Welcome & introduction

8.40 International Human Rights Law: Information & Misinformation

- what are human rights
- what is international law
- supervisory mechanisms
- limitations of international law in terms of legal obligations and enforcement
- international human rights law in Australia

10.15 Morning tea

Registration: \$100 (concessions are available); cost includes registration, study guide and morning tea.

For further information on academic issues contact:

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10.45 Use in issues regarding Indigenous Peoples

- sentencing laws
- transfer of prisoners
- interpreters
- domestic violence
- stolen generation

12.00 Practical Uses and Abuses: International and Australian Possibilities

- optional protocol
- Australian reports to the Human Rights Committee
- use in court cases, administrative decisions and legislation, and limits on its use.
- impact on ideas (eg. shared sovereignty)

For further information on administrative issues contact:

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Family Court of Australia - new ordering system for forms and brochures

The Family Court of Australia advises that it has introduced a new ordering system for its publications. This system is part of the Court's new cost-recovery policy which will see charges introduced for many of its publications which were previously supplied free.

The demand for the Court's publications has risen dramatically over the past few years and the cost of providing and distributing these has spiralled.

In the future, practitioners will be supplied with single copies of all pre-

scribed forms, and brochures and (non-prescribed) do-it-yourself kits free on request to their nearest registry. Requests for forms in bulk, however, will attract a postage and handling charge. Requests for kits required in bulk will incur a printing, postage and handling charge. Forms and kits can continue to be photocopied as required.

The introduction of the cost recovery policy will allow the Court to open up its entire inventory of non-prescribed general information and resource materials which previously had restricted

distribution. Fees, to recover postage/printing/handling costs will be charged for these non-prescribed printed electronic materials and multiple copies of kits.

All those currently on the Court's mailing list will have received information on these changes. Any other firms or organisations requiring further information on charges should contact the Court with their details on fax 03 9602 2105 or telephone 03 9642 4748.

Copies of the new information are also available from the Law Society.