

Stolen Generation – Legal Issues Paper

The Public Interest Law Clearing House announces the publication of a legal issues paper designed to assist lawyers acting for Stolen Generation clients who wish to pursue legal action and for use by researchers, students and others concerned with indigenous questions.

The paper, entitled *The Stolen Generation – a legal issues paper for lawyers and other advisers*, has been produced as part of a project funded by the Law Foundation of NSW and the Public Interest Advocacy Centre.

It summarises some of the fundamental legal issues of concern to the Stolen Generation including questions of statutory limitations, fiduciary duties owed by the State and statutory bodies to those removed and the legal consequences of removal for Aboriginal people who intend to assert native title rights.

The Public Law Clearing House was established in 1992 by the Public Interest Advocacy Centre, the Law Society of NSW and members of private firms in Sydney. Its task is to assess requests for legal assistance which raise issues of public interest and, where appropriate, refer requests to member law firms who provide advice and assistance on a *pro bono* or reduced fee basis.

Production of the legal issues paper is the second stage of a project which is currently focused on evaluating and possibly conducting test cases in respect of matters which reflect primary legal problems facing the Stolen Generation. It is hoped that these cases will provide clarification of law and offer benefits to those similarly affected.

The paper has three sections: a background section, providing an introduction to NSW governmental policy about removals, a legal issues section including an overview by Justice Ron Merkel and a useful documents section.

Cost of the publication is \$15 and it may be obtained from the Public Interest Advocacy Centre, Level 1, 46-48 York St, SYDNEY NSW 2000, tel: 02 9299 7833, fax: 02 9299 7855.

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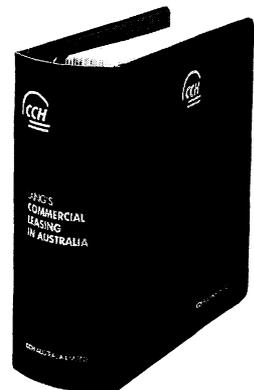
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