

Cyber-racism: can the RDA prevent it?...cont.

from anywhere with Internet access.

While Internet content hosts and service providers are also subject to content regulation under the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992 (Cth)* ('BSA'), the obligations in the BSA are based upon the film classification regime. This film classification regime concerns itself primarily with material depicting sex, violence and certain criminal activity. Although this will

potentially include more serious forms of vilification involving, for example, incitement to violence (which may also fall within the reach of criminal law), this regime does not address the specific types of harm that the RDA prohibits and seeks to prevent.

The proposal to give ACMA specific powers to regulate racial hatred appearing online is therefore timely.



CALD Communities Family Law Project

By the Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission

The NT Legal Aid Commission and Melaleuca Refugee Centre have been successful in obtaining funding from the LSNT Public Purposes Trust to develop a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities project, focussing on family law. The model is being adapted from a similar project developed by the Legal Services Commission of South Australia.

Laws in countries of origin are often different to Australia's laws and learning about Australian law is only one issue that recent migrants and refugees have to deal with. New community members can sometimes be surprised that laws they lived with previously do not apply in Australia, and Australian laws can sometimes be the opposite.

The main aims of the project are:

- To promote understanding of the Australian family law system among CALD communities;
- To promote understanding of how to access and comply with the Australian legal system among CALD communities;

□ To promote the ability of individuals to make informed choices.

In early 2008 a reference group will be formed to inform and guide the project workers. The reference group will meet on a regular basis.

CALD communities with the greatest need for family law information will be identified. Relationships will be developed with those communities and consultations will take place to identify the most effective method of information delivery.

Three staff, including a lawyer, multicultural facilitator and project officer will work on the project.

If your organisation would like to be involved or would like more information about this exciting new project, please contact the CALD Family Law Project Officer, Melinda Schroeder on 8999 4697 or email melinda.schroeder@ntlac.nt.gov.au.

Information on the SA CALD project can be obtained from www.lsc.sa.gov.au/cb_pages/cald.php

