

# HOT TOPICS

LEGAL ISSUES IN PLAIN LANGUAGE

A magazine series on recent changes and debates in the law published by the Legal Information Access Centre (LIAC), State Library of NSW. *Hot Topics* gives students, community workers and the general public information about the law as it changes and affects our lives.

*2009 issues will include International law and Indigenous peoples (others to be confirmed).*

## 2008 issues

### (67) Prisons & prisoners

Prisoners are from highly disadvantaged backgrounds, characterised by poor education, unemployment, social exclusion and poor physical and mental health. Outlines the background and current environment of prisons with case studies, as well as the relevant international law and overseas comparisons.

### (66) Domestic violence

The law relating to domestic violence in New South Wales, which is the focus of this issue has undergone numerous changes over the past decade, particularly in changes to AVO proceedings. The new *Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007* (NSW) came into force in March 2008.

### (65) Human rights

An overview of human rights law from its origins and sources, through to the development of modern human rights law. Examines how human rights law operates in Australia, with reference to current issues. Includes the full text of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* and further information resources.

### (64) Health & the law

Discusses legal concepts such as duty of care and informed consent, and areas of health regulation such as medicines, medical treatment, hospitals, health professionals, privacy of information and emerging medical technologies. Includes examples of 'end of life' court decisions and of many ethical dilemmas relating to health care.

### (special issue) Neighbours & the law

Provides answers to commonly asked questions about the law involving neighbourhood issues, such as barking dogs, overhanging branches, dividing fences, retaining walls, invasive tree roots etc. Smaller format for ready-reference.

## Other recent issues

### (63) Climate change

Climate change law is an emerging area of law. It can be anything from a tax on carbon emissions to criminal sanctions for breaching pollution licences. Some major problems caused by climate change are discussed, and responses at international, national and local levels.

### (62) Children & families

Outlines the role of law in regulating the forming and dissolving of family relationships, and how courts deal with family and child issues. Includes issues such as same-sex couples, de facto relationships, divorce, adoption and child protection. Discusses 2006 changes to the *Family Law Act* including the presumption of equal shared parental responsibility.

### (61) Employment & the law

Work Choices legislation made sweeping changes to the employment landscape. Other changes made by the *NSW Industrial Relations (Child Employment) Act 2006*, and a new offence of industrial manslaughter are discussed, along with difficult workplace issues, such as injury, violence, discrimination and bullying.

### (60) Australian legal system

An overview of our legal system and how it developed, covering how law is made, and what the law deals with. The roles of 'arms of government' – the legislature, the judiciary and the executive are discussed, as well as the legal profession.

### (59) Drugs & the law

Covers drug law history, laws that apply to NSW and issues such as drugs and driving, sniffer dogs, searches, and drugs in schools. Recent changes to drug laws are discussed, such as the MERIT scheme, Youth Drug and Alcohol Court and cannabis cautioning.

Use this form to subscribe or order past individual issues by post or fax.

- 2009 Hot Topics (\$82.50 prepaid – 4 issues for the year)
- 2008 Hot Topics – \$82.50 (issues 64-67)
- HOT OFFERS – Order a second 2008 subscription for just \$55!**
- Buy all pre-2008 issues (subject to availability) for \$165 (includes GST).**

2000 - 2008 individual issues

Issue	Title	Price	Qty	Issue	Title	Price	Qty
Special	Neighbours & the Law 2008	\$22.00		53	Same-sex families 2005	\$22.00	
67	Prisons & prisoners 2008	\$22.00		52	Copyright 2005	\$22.00	
66	Domestic violence 2008	\$22.00		51	Personal injury 2005	\$22.00	
65	Human rights 2008	\$22.00		49	Juvenile justice 2004	\$16.50	
64	Health & the law 2008	\$22.00		48	Native title 2004	\$16.50	
63	Climate change 2007	\$22.00		46	You & your lawyer 2004	\$16.50	
62	Children & families 2007	\$22.00		45	Privacy 2003	\$16.50	
61	Employment & the law 2007	\$22.00		43	Water law 2003	\$16.50	
60	Australian legal system 2007	\$22.00		41	Consumers & money 2003	\$16.50	
59	Drugs & the law 2006	\$22.00		40	Discrimination 2002	\$16.50	
58	Terrorism 2006	\$22.00		39	Intellectual disability & criminal law 2002	\$16.50	
57	Shelter 2006	\$22.00		38	Courts 2002	\$16.50	
56	Sexual assault 2006	\$22.00		36	Human genetic information 2002	\$16.50	
55	Sentencing 2005	\$22.00		34	Voting & elections 2001	\$16.50	
54	Bill of rights 2005	\$22.00		33	Reconciliation 2001	\$16.50	

All other issues have been withdrawn or are out of print.

**TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Do you require a tax invoice prior to payment? \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Name & department \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment:** Please debit my  Amex  VISA  Mastercard  Bankcard

Card number \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque or money order - please make cheques payable to the **Library Council of NSW** and post to:

**Legal Information Access Centre**

State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

www.liac.sl.nsw.gov.au

Email: [liac@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:liac@sl.nsw.gov.au)

ABN: 19 665 924 697

Tel: 61 2 9273 1645

**Enquiries:**

Cathy Hammer, Editor

[chammer@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:chammer@sl.nsw.gov.au)

Fax: 61 2 9273 1250