

THE JOHN FLEMING CENTRE FOR ADVANCEMENT OF
LEGAL RESEARCH PRESENTS:



PUBLIC LECTURE

PERILOUS SHOALS: RACE, RELIGION & NATURAL RESOURCES Lessons from the American Struggle to Maintain Judicial Independence

Judge Mary Schroeder
9th Circuit US Court of Appeals



Wednesday 20 August, 5.30pm
Sparke Helmore Theatre 1
ANU College of Law, Fellows Rd, ANU

This event is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the lecture.

Please **RSVP** (by 18 August) to Yee-Fui Ng E: ngy@law.anu.edu.au

Enquiries to T: (02) 6125 4652

THE LECTURE

In this lecture Judge Schroeder will draw on her experience as a Judge and Chief Judge of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to reflect on judicial independence and its relationship to the challenges presented to the judiciary in politically sensitive litigation that raises matters as diverse as race, religion and access to scarce water resources. Issues discussed will include the pledge of allegiance, school desegregation, and the Colorado River. She will suggest some possible lessons for Australia from the American experience with such sensitive issues.

THE LECTURER

Judge Mary Schroeder served as Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit from 2000–07, the first woman to hold the post. She studied law at the University of Chicago and then practised as a trial attorney in the Civil Division of the Department of Justice. Judge Schroeder sat on the Arizona Court of Appeals from 1975–79 before being appointed by President Jimmy Carter to the Ninth Circuit. The Ninth Circuit covers 9 states (including California) and two overseas territories with a total population of more than 50 million people. It is the largest of the courts of appeals, with 29 judges. Her best known opinion is *Hirabayashi vs United States*; in 1987 holding that the internment of Japanese American citizens during World War II was unconstitutional. She is also the recipient of the American Bar Association's highest award for women and the State Bar of Arizona's Outstanding Jurist Award.

Judge Schroeder will be in Australia as a Visiting Fellow of The John Fleming Centre for Advancement of Legal Research at the ANU College of Law.

The views expressed in this seminar are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University.

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