

Public Law Seminar

IMPROVING PARLIAMENTARY SCRUTINY OF LEGISLATION and its Implications for Human Rights, Parliament and Democracy

Speaker: Professor Bryan Horrigan
School of Law, University of Canberra
Director, National Centre for Corporate Law and Policy Research
Deputy Director, National Institute for Governance
Consultant, Allens Arthur Robinson

Date: Wednesday 19 November 2003
Time: 5.30-6.30pm
Place: Staff Library, Faculty of Law, Building 5
corner Fellows and East Roads, ANU

Bryan Horrigan is a professor of law and also a legal consultant to business and government. Until 2000, he was an academic consultant to the Queensland Parliamentary Scrutiny of Legislation Committee. He was interviewed recently on his scrutiny work by both the NSW Parliamentary Law and Justice Committee and the ACT Bill of Rights Consultative Committee. His latest book, *Adventures in Law and Justice: Exploring Big Legal Issues in Everyday Life*, is published by UNSW Press and contains a specific chapter on bills of rights generally and alternative rights-protection measures including enhanced parliamentary scrutiny of laws in particular. Professor Horrigan completed his doctorate at Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. His academic and professional work has been cited variously by High Court judges and other public officials. He is currently involved in the most recent and comprehensive national, empirical, and critical survey of parliamentary scrutiny committees and their work, including interviews with politicians, consultants, and advisers on these committees.

In this seminar he will outline the similarities and differences between federal and state parliamentary scrutiny of legislation, critically analyse the scope and effectiveness of parliamentary scrutiny of laws for human rights and other implications, and discuss the role of scrutiny of legislation as one amongst many forms of rights-protection.

Enquiries

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