Phillipa Weeks Lecture in Labour Law

The International Regulation of Domestic Work: Lessons for Australia?

Wednesday 24 October 2012  6 – 7pm

Presented by
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Sparke Helmore Theatre 1, ANU College of Law (bldg 5), Fellows Road
The Australian National University

In 2011, the International Labour Organisation created a Convention on Domestic Work, which aims to shape legal protections for the many millions of maids, carers, nannies, cooks and others around the world who perform paid work in the home. The Convention provides us with the opportunity to assess where international labour law is at in its treatment of ‘non-standard work’, the integration of a human rights focus in labour law, the evolution of working time norms and the design of legal techniques for implementation and enforcement. What are the lessons for Australian labour law—for the regulation of domestic work, for care work generally and for the future regulation of the ‘standard employment relationship’ itself?

Dr Jill Murray is an Associate Professor in the Law School, La Trobe University. Her doctorate in law, awarded by Oxford University, analysed the respective roles of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the European Union as regulators of working time. Since then, she has continued to research in this field, and in 2010 with Dr Deirdre McCann of Manchester University, produced a report on working time in domestic work as part of the ILO’s preparations for the 2011 Convention on Domestic Work. Dr Murray has published widely on international and Australian labour law, and is co-author with Rosemary Owens and Joellen Riley of the second edition of The Law of Work (OUP).

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