

NOTICES

PUBLICATIONS

■ The South Brisbane Immigration and Community Legal Service has produced the 'Multi-lingual Legal Information Kit' as a resource for welfare and community workers who work with people from non-English-speaking backgrounds. Areas of law covered are: the Australian legal system, family law, criminal law, civil law, personal injuries, police powers, consumer rights and employment. It is available in English, Vietnamese, Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Arabic and Serbian. Other languages and topics will be covered once further funding is available. The cost is \$20 for community organisations and \$50 for government departments. Cheques should be made payable to:

South Brisbane Immigration and
Community Legal Service
P O Box 5143
West End, Queensland, 4101.
tel. (07) 806 3189.

■ The Canberra Welfare Rights and Legal Centre will be publishing a successor edition to the *Annotated Social Security Act* — 5th edition. Price is \$38 for Community Legal Centres and \$45 for others (plus \$5 postage). Please send your order to:

Welfare Rights and Legal Centre
P O Box 337
Civic Square ACT 2608

CONFERENCES

■ The *Australian Institute of Criminology* has released its 1992 conference program. Dates are as follows:

31 March–2 April:

'Eighth Conference for Librarians in the Criminal Justice System' — Sydney.

19–21 May:

'Marricide' — Melbourne.

23–25 June:

'Aboriginal Justice Issues' — North Queensland.

3–5 August:

'Criminal Justice Policy: Issues, Management and Evaluation' — Brisbane.

22–24 September:

'A Review of Criminal Justice Issues in Australia and New Zealand'. Either on corrections or juvenile justice issues — Wellington, New Zealand.

If you wish to attend or speak at the Conferences or have any ideas for topics, contact:

Conference Unit
Australian Institute of Criminology
GPO Box 2944
Canberra ACT 2601

■ The *First Conference on Forensic Aspects of Child Abuse* will be held from 13-14 March 1992 in Sydney. Speakers from Australia and overseas include: the Rt. Hon. Sir Harry Gibbs, Professor Richard D. Krugmann (Chair of US Advisory Board on Child

Abuse and Neglect, Department of Health and Human Services), Professor Don Bross (Associate Professor in Paediatrics, University of Colorado School of Medicine). Conference organisers stress the importance for judges, lawyers and others involved in court processes to improve their understanding of the issues and their handling of child abuse and neglect cases and to promote change whenever necessary. For further information contact

Dr C. Gluskie; or
Denise Smith
Conference Secretariat
tel. (02) 744 9694.

NEW WELFARE RIGHTS CENTRE

The Welfare Rights Centre (Hobart) was established in December 1991. Temporarily located at Room 115, Hampden House, 82 Hampden Road, Battery Point, Hobart, Tasmania, 7004, the centre provides free telephone advice and information on social security entitlements.

Hours: Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
tel. (002) 241 767.

Run on a voluntary basis, the centre would welcome more volunteers.

Contact:
Andy Gregson
(002) 241 767; or
Sandy McCullough
(002) 202 078.

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NOTICES

HOT PURSUITS

The Police Issues Group of the Federation of CLCs (Vic.) has produced a report into police car chases: *Thrills and Spills: A Report on Police High Speed Pursuits and Public Safety* is available from the Federation Secretariat: tel. (03) 419 2752.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION ORDERS KIT

The Violence Against Women and Children Working Group of the Federation of CLCs (Vic.) recently launched a new kit, titled *Domestic Violence: A Simple Guide to Intervention Orders and Other Legal Remedies*, designed to assist community workers in advising victims of domestic violence. The kit provides a comprehensive and reader friendly guide to Victorian and relevant federal legislation.

For a copy of the Guide, contact the Federation secretariat: tel. (03) 419 2752.

AIDS EDUCATION

The Aboriginal Medical Service Co-operative Ltd (who produced the poster we have used to illustrate our cover) have the following videos available:

'Spread the Word' — about AIDS prevention.

'U Me and HIV' — issues for women negotiating safe sex.

'Where Eagles Fly' — caring for AIDS sufferers.

Contact: tel. (02) 699 2493; fax (02) 319 3345.

JUSTICE FOR ALL CAMPAIGN

The Federation of Community Legal Centres (Vic.) held a rally on 5 February to draw attention to the legal aid funding crisis.

Over the past 18 months the demand for legal aid assistance has reached an all time high with 44 686 applications received in 1990-91. This record demand has been coupled with spiralling legal fees charged by many

in the legal profession. Funding for legal aid has failed to keep pace with inflation or increased demand for assistance.

The Legal Aid Commission is facing a financial crisis of major proportions.

Legal aid is forced to reject one in every three applications. Without urgent government action, the situation will rapidly worsen.

The Federation is calling on the Attorney-General to protect everybody's right to justice by:

- stopping cuts to legal aid services;
- securing adequate, ongoing funding for legal aid;
- establishing an independent review and public audit of the solicitors' guarantee fund;
- actively supporting moves to make the legal profession accept a reduction in fees paid by legal aid.
- guaranteeing consumer representation on legal cost setting structures (the Costs Co-ordination Committee) in Victoria.

Further information about the Justice For All Campaign may be obtained from Sam Biondo at Fitzroy Legal Service: tel. (03) 419 3744 or the Federation Secretariat tel. (03) 419 2752.

SYDNEY DISCUSSION FORUMS FOR WOMEN: Women's lives, men's laws: feminist futures?

A series of discussion forums is being organised in Sydney for women to discuss recent developments in the laws affecting their lives and opportunities. They will be held approximately bi-monthly on Sunday afternoons from 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the bistro area at the Harold Park Hotel in Glebe. There will be speakers to provide some background information and highlight key issues, followed by discussion. The first two are as follows:

Sunday, 5 April 1992: 'Recognising a Battered Woman's Syndrome in the Courts: Good News or Bad News for Women who kill their Abusers?'

Sunday, 31 May 1992: 'Lead Astray: Discriminating Against Women in the Name of Protecting the Foetus'.

Childcare will be available if booked in advance. The dates are subject to confirmation. For further information contact Maureen Kingshott (02) 264 9545 (bh).

BAD NEWS FOR SCARLET ALLIANCE

In February 1992, the Scarlet Alliance, the national sex workers organisation which was formed in 1989, was told by the Commonwealth Department of Health, Housing and Community Services that it would no longer receive Commonwealth funding.

The Alliance received funding through the national AIDS programs. Its projects provided resources and support to State and Territory prostitutes' groups and provided both national and international representation for sex workers.

The Department as yet has given no reasons for not continuing funding of the Alliance.

IS GOD AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER?

The recent New South Wales Supreme Court injunction which prevented the planned ordination of 11 women to the Anglican ministry has split the Church. Three men, led by a Melbourne barrister, successfully sought the injunction arguing that the planned ordinations were contrary to the Church's Constitution and would be an illegal use of Church property by Bishop Dowling who was to have conducted the ordinations. Of course, the real issue remains whether women should be allowed to represent God as priests. Meanwhile a popular T-shirt is reputed to be selling well. It bears the inscription: 'Is God an Equal Opportunity Employer?'