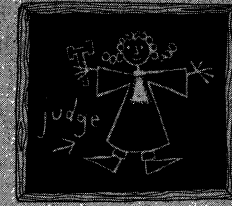


## LEGAL STUDIES

JULES ALDOUS has created a jigsaw activity working with the previous article 'The Foundations of Legal Citizenship' by Mark Rix and Scott Burrows



Activity 1: 'Reflecting on your reading' requires students to work in groups to answer focus questions exploring key ideas presented in the article. Divide the class into groups. Allocate each group a set of focus questions to discuss. Once the groups have prepared their class presentation, each group will lead a class discussion of their focus questions. (Each group should consist of three to four students. In larger classes there may be more than one group looking at each set of focus questions.)

Activity 2 requires students to apply their understanding of the article. For this activity the groups should be re-formed. Each group should consist of at least one student who has looked at each of the focus questions in Activity One. Students could be asked to prepare a written response to these questions.

### Activity 1: REFLECTING ON YOUR READING

For this activity you will be divided into groups. Each group will be allocated a set of focus questions. Your task will be to lead a class discussion of the focus questions you have been set. Carefully read the article 'The Foundations of Legal Citizenship'. Discuss the focus questions set for your group and prepare a class presentation of your responses.

#### FOCUS — The Role of Community Legal Centres (CLCs)

1. What is the role of a CLC? Draw a diagram to illustrate the different types of disputes that CLCs deal with?
2. The article states that 'the matters encompassed in community law affect the cohesiveness and inclusiveness of the bonds that tie people together as members of the community'.
  - a. What does the term 'cohesiveness' mean?
  - b. What does the term 'inclusiveness' mean?
  - c. How do you think that the disputes dealt with by CLCs affect the cohesiveness and inclusiveness of the community?
3. Why are CLCs important?

#### FOCUS — The Justice Sector

1. The article states that the 'crisis in the justice sector goes largely unnoticed'. What do you think the term 'justice' means? What factors do you think contribute to justice?
2. CLCs are seen as one part of the justice sector. What do you think the term 'justice sector' refers

to? What other bodies do you think make up the 'justice sector'?

3. What evidence is presented in the article to support the statement that the justice sector is in crisis?

#### FOCUS — Legal Citizenship

1. How would you define the term 'citizenship'?
2. The article refers to the notion of legal citizenship. What do you think the term 'legal citizenship' means?
3. According to the article, why is legal citizenship important? Do you agree? Explain.
4. What does the term 'consumer citizenship' mean?
5. How does the notion of 'consumer citizenship' undermine or alter the idea of 'legal citizenship'?

#### FOCUS — Legal Aid Funding

1. What was the 'cooperative model of funding for legal aid'?
2. How was the cooperative model of funding changed by the 'purchaser/provider' model?
3. What problems in funding legal services resulted from these changes?
4. Which groups in the community have been disadvantaged by these changes? Suggest ways in which these groups may be disadvantaged in accessing legal services.

### Activity 2: DRAWING AN UNDERSTANDING

Working in groups:

1. Use dot points to prepare a summary of the key points to answer each of the following questions.
  - Why are CLCs seen as a key component of the legal aid system?
  - How does the work of CLCs contribute to the notion of 'legal citizenship'?
  - Why are changes in the legal aid funding of CLCs needed?
2. Comment on the following statements.
 

'The justice system in Australia is a system of injustice caused by the allocation of insufficient resources and the consequent denial of access to justice on a daily basis.'

'Legal citizenship is not just about equal access to justice and equality before the law. Just as importantly, it is about providing individuals with the means and opportunity to be full and active members of society.'