Nardine Collier cont...

bloody silly and made me cry. But, I went on to finish my degree. Thanks Eric (I think).

How long have you been in the Territory and what brought you up here?

I was born in Darwin. So the answer to brought me here is pretty obvious - though I could be rude and say the back of Mum and Dad's panel van.

What is the best, and worst, thing about living and working in the Territory?

Having never lived anywhere else I can't really compare, but having visited and spent time in large cities I am always glad to come home. Territorians are a friendly lot! I especially enjoy working in Alice Springs. As a group, the practitioners here seem to get along well.

If you had the power to change one thing in the world, what

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Links:

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would it be?

I should say "world peace", however what I really want is a Spotlight store in Alice Springs.

What is your greatest achievement?

My daughter Becky and my very soon to be born son.

What are you hobbies?

Nowadays - watching "Shrek" (Becky's favourite movie, so I've seen it about 200 times), reading, cooking, and the old favourites of wining and dining (though not so much lately). Recently I've taken up sewing and churn out weird clothes that Becky is too young to realise are awful.

Describe your perfect weekend

A little house on a beach, good food, good wine and a SLEEP IN.

What are you most passionate about?

My family and in recent times the

necklines of little girl's t-shirts.

What was the last book you read?

Seriously - The Cat in the Hat.

What is your favourite movie?

Shrek

What is your favourite holiday destination and why?

At the moment Adelaide. We have great friends there and I can indulge my taste buds and catch a glimpse of the ocean.

Describe your perfect meal

Thai or maybe Japanese or maybe Malaysian... fish and chips.

After a long week at work it is finally Friday, you walk up to the bar and order a...

Pink champagne, but I've forgotten what bars look like.

Three words that describe you...

Tired and more tired. ①

Hardie victims pursue justice denied to others

The Jackson inquiry into James Hardie has been a potent reminder of the fundamental importance of protecting an individual's right to sue and recover compensation for personal injuries, according to the Law Council of Australia (LCA).

"James Hardie victims have kept their right to be fully compensated only because the New South Wales Government hasn't seen fit to take away their common law rights, as they have done for so many others," LCA President-elect Steve Southwood QC said.

Without such rights, particularly the right to sue for pain and suffering, the victims of asbestos supplier James Hardie would be in a far worse position. Although the victims of the negligent use of asbestos have tragically lost their health and years of life, compensation will provide them with medical care and will allow them to live the rest of their lives with dignity.

Mr Southwood said that the "thresholds" imposed on the right to claim damages in public liability cases by the NSW Government had deprived many people of their rights to sue for compensation.

"The NSW Government recognised that just compensation should be available for asbestos victims. However, there is no valid reason why other victims of negligence should not have the same right to be compensated," he said.

Mr Southwood was speaking as the Law Council this week made its second submission to the Special Commission of Inquiry, chaired by David Jackson QC, into the Medical Research and Compensation Foundation, established by the James Hardie Group.

"The James Hardie inquiry is a wakeup call, showing that it is time to review some of the tort law reforms that have been introduced throughout Australia", Mr Southwood said.