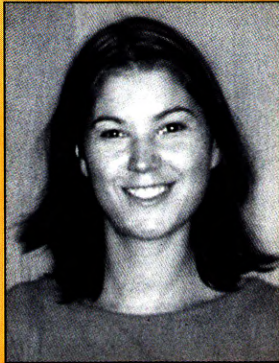




SELINA SAWAYA



CATHERINE SYMONS

Wanted: Contributions

We are always looking for new ideas and contributions for the Journal and we invite all Young Lawyers to get involved in the production of the Journal.

Contact Us

Please contact us with your contributions and ideas at: younglaw@liv.asn.au, catherine.symons@gsoconnect.com.au, ssawaya@unimelb.edu.au.

Becoming a Member of the Young Lawyers' Section

Membership of the Young Lawyers' Section is open to all practitioners under the age of 36 or practitioners with less than six years practical experience. Articled Clerks and law students are encouraged to become associate members of the Section.

"If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality." BISHOP DESMOND TUTU

In today's society, our allegiance to the side of the oppressor often happens inadvertently. Many of us feel genuine outrage at the plight of underprivileged, disadvantaged and disenfranchised people but feel powerless to act.

As Young Lawyers, we are optimally placed to make genuine contributions and effect real change to redress current examples of injustice and inequality.

The theme for the Journal in 2002 is "Young Lawyers making a mark". In this first edition we will focus on the involvement of Young Lawyers in the area of human rights.

Young Lawyers make their mark in a variety of ways. Some choose to play an active role as advocates for a particular cause while others choose to raise public awareness by reporting on incidents of injustice.

An issue which has grabbed headlines recently, and evoked a strong response from Young Lawyers, is the refugee crisis. It is fitting that this edition of the Journal deals with this topic in depth.

However, it is also important not to lose sight of other causes which fight for attention in a world riddled with examples of human rights atrocities.

The principal goal of human rights is expressed eloquently in the preamble to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

"Recognition of the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world".

We hope that this Journal will inspire you to speak out in situations of injustice and to make your own mark in promoting human rights. We should not be afraid to confront the "elephant", whatever form it takes.

Selina Sawaya and Catherine Symons

The front cover features a picture drawn by a child held in detention at the Woomera Detention Centre.