

## Welcome

This is the first newsletter of Feminist Legal Clinic Inc. We intend to publish one of these every quarter, so if you have not already joined as a member and want to keep receiving news of our activities, please join up [here](#).

## Our Launch

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped to make our launch a success. Thanks particularly to the support of the City of Sydney Council who made it possible. Councillor Jess Miller spoke at the event, as well as founding committee member Professor Rita Shackel from the University of Sydney Law School. The event was chaired by current convenor Associate Professor Bronwyn Winter and the welcome to country was delivered by Charmaine Weldon of Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre. Catering was by refugee kitchen "Four Brave Women". The event was a success with over 60 people in attendance. More photos and videos of the event can be found on our website [here](#).



A full room for our launch at Benedi House

## Women Write Wiki

This project was originally commenced in 2017 in collaboration with Spider Redgold from Feminine Byte, and with the support of a small grant from the NSW Writer's Centre. It is still continuing with a core group of about a half dozen women meeting every second Wednesday at The Women's Library (TWL) and co-ordinated by Ann Reynolds. For more details check out the [The Women's Library](#) website. Also look out for TWL's "Herland" Art Exhibition launching on IWD.

## Female Defendants Project

The Female Defendants Project, a research study to be conducted jointly with Professor Rita Shackel from the University of Sydney's Law School, has now received ethics approval and the work will begin in earnest shortly. Watch this space for further updates on this.

## Saving the Women's Family Law Court Support Service

We are continuing to campaign to save the Women's Family Law Court Support Service (WFLCSS). This essential domestic violence service is facing imminent closure due to lack of political will to commit to funding the service which costs only \$120,000 per annum to operate. To sign the petition click [here](#).



## Submissions

In this first quarter of the year we have sent off submissions to the [Senate Inquiry into ParentNext](#), calling on the government to scrap this oppressive program, a [Pre Budget Submission to the Treasury](#) asking for money to be allocated for WFLCSS and for women's refuges, a final submission on [Sexual Assault Consent laws to the NSW Law Reform Commission](#) and a [submission in relation to the draft Surrogacy Bill](#) to the South Australian Government.



## Other Opportunities

OPENING 8 MARCH, INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2019 AT THE WOMEN'S LIBRARY SYDNEY.


# HERLAND

IN SEARCH OF A FEMALE UTOPIA

The Women's Library, Sydney is pleased to present Herland: In Search of a Female Utopia, a multi-medium all Women art exhibition that asks what the future may hold, questions what is ideal and explores how will we get there.

We would like to invite you to celebrate with us at our opening event on International Women's Day, March 8, 2019 at 6pm.  
<https://thewomenslibrary.org.au/>

HERLAND EXHIBITION 8 March - 4 April 2019  
Opening Event 8 March 2019, 6pm - 9pm  
The Women's Library  
8-10 Brown Street, Newtown  
T: +612 9557 7050 E: [exhibitions@thewomenslibrary.org.au](mailto:exhibitions@thewomenslibrary.org.au)



## Beyond Mothering Myths?

Motherhood in an Age of Neoliberalism and Individualisation

The University of Sydney, Camperdown Campus  
Wednesday 10 July 2019 - Friday 12 July 2019

## Articles

We have had Opinion articles published by the Australian Lawyer's Alliance on "Are Men still Determining Women's Human Rights?" ([Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)) and a piece in Women's Agenda in [response to the Gillette advertisement](#) that had men's rights activists foaming at the mouth and another piece on [misleading political campaigning](#). We were also quoted in the Sydney Morning Herald in relation to [social media harassment](#) and received a mention in the Tasmanian Times in relation to the need for an [inquiry into transgender laws](#) and their impact on women's rights.

## Road Trip to Canberra

Some of us enjoyed a road trip to Canberra in February to represent and support a client being sued in ACAT for alleged transgender vilification. While this claim was ultimately withdrawn and dismissed, it is not over yet. If you are interested in offering support, visit: <https://www.gofundme.com/legal-costs-for-acat-hearing-v-bridget-clinch>.

## Please Join!

If you support the work we are doing, please join as a member [here](#). We are all volunteers and your membership payments and donations will go to cover our operating costs such as insurance, internet, telephone and office expenses so that we are not left out of pocket. Our new appointment service on Tuesday mornings is also available to members.

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CLINIC**

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## Seeking Participants

Research on self-represented litigants in Australian family law proceedings involving allegations of family violence.

**Are you involved in family law proceedings?**

**Are you representing yourself? Or is the other person representing themselves?**

**Did you or the other person make allegations about family violence?**

**If you answered 'yes' to these three questions we would like to invite you to participate in a research project.**

This research project is being conducted by Dr Jane Wangmann, Dr Tracey Booth and Miranda Kaye from the University of Technology Sydney.

This research has been funded by ANROWS and has been approved by the UTS Human Research Ethics Committee. UTS HREC REF NO. ETH18-2098

If you would like to be involved in the research project or find out more information please call or text us on **0423 552 565** or email [selfreps@uts.edu.au](mailto:selfreps@uts.edu.au).