

newsletter

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Please accept our apologies for the late release of this newsletter. However, this has enabled us to provide significant updates in relation to some of our recent casework.

Casework

Jessica Hoyle v Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Commissioner



The Tasmanian case of Jessica Hoyle v Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Commissioner was listed for a Directions Hearing in the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal on 6 July 2022. The High Court's recent decision in Citta made it clear that the Tribunal does not have jurisdiction to consider the constitutional issues raised in our written submissions. After consultation with the client and counsel, we have asked the Tribunal to proceed with consideration of the matter based on the remaining legal arguments.

We now await a ruling by the Tribunal either affirming or quashing the Anti-Discrimination Commissioner's decision to refuse our client's application for an exemption under the Anti-Discrimination Act in order to hold a female-only lesbian social event. The decision is expected by November this year.

The constitutional issues that were raised earlier in these proceedings may be advanced at a later date in a higher court if it proves necessary. Jessica's fundraiser for this purpose can be accessed [here](#).

Tickle vs Giggle (yes, that's really the name)

This case involves a discrimination claim by trans activist Roxanne Tickle against our clients, Giggle Pty Ltd and its CEO Sall Grover, for their efforts to provide an app that creates a safe space online for women and girls to network free of male harassment.

Tickle, who identifies as female but was born male, was denied access to the female only social media app, Giggle for Girls, and originally made a complaint to the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) alleging discrimination on the basis of gender identity. When it became apparent conciliation would not eventuate, the claim was terminated by the AHRC and Tickle initiated proceedings in the Federal Circuit Court.



This matter attracted media coverage, including articles in the [Spectator](#) and the [Weekend Australian](#), before the proceedings were suddenly discontinued by Tickle before the first court date on 8 July 2022, thankfully allowing Sall to focus on having her baby due on 10 July 2022.

The Election

As country contact for Women's Declaration International, Feminist Legal Clinic co-ordinated a survey of political candidates to gauge their commitment to women's sex-based rights. The responses were disappointing, to say the least, and [our report](#) in relation to the results can be accessed [here](#), as well as an earlier [media release](#) reflecting on the failure of our political leaders in this policy area.

Defamation of FLC and WDI by NSW Greens

Some of you may have followed the media coverage of events taking place within the Greens Party (some of which is listed below). We will not repeat the false and defamatory claims that have been made, not only against Anna Kerr but also Feminist Legal Clinic and Women's Declaration International. We have taken legal advice in relation to these matters resulting in a concerns letters being sent and the offending material taken down. Please consider signing [this petition](#) protesting the treatment of Linda Gale and Anna Kerr by the Victorian and NSW Greens respectively, if you have not already.

Media Mentions

[Tickle v Giggie](#), Weekend Australian, 9 July 2022.

[Ousted Greens convenor defiant amid party's trans row](#), The Age/[SMH](#), 25 June 2022 ([pdf](#))

[Two Women Ejected from Australian Green Party for 'Transphobia'](#), 4W Newsletter, 23 June 2022 ([pdf](#))

[Feminists decry bully Greens](#), The Australian, 22 June 2022

[Greens dump new convenor over trans comments](#), The Age & SMH, 18 June 2022 ([pdf](#))

[EXCLUSIVE: Astonishing moment transgender paramedic who was born male 'breastfeeds' her newborn baby after wife gives birth – as critics say only women can produce milk](#), Daily Mail, 29 May 2022

[Women's Group sends Anti-Trans Surey to Candidates](#), Star Observer, 13 May 2022

No 'breastfeeding' or 'pregnant mothers' under Labor policies. Daily Telegraph, 6 May 2022

Presentations

Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ) Webinar – speakers Anna McCormack, Yolanda Forster, Jasmine Sussex, hosted by Janet Fraser, 25 June 2022.

Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ) Webinar – speakers Tessa Kowaliw, Leisa Masters, [Jill Ovens](#), 28 May 2022

Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ) Webinar – speakers Nerissa Assiren, Sand Hall and Karyn Lisignoli hosted by Janet Fraser, 30 April 2022 ([You Tube](#), [Archive](#), [Anchor](#))

A conference for counsellors, young people, parents, teachers, & the public
Attend in person or by video link

Conference, Friday
August 5th, 2022,
8.45am – 4.30pm
Venue To Be Advised

Conference Programme,
speakers bios:
cata.org.nz/new-events

Registration form:
cata.org.nz/training

The Conference will be available by video-link globally. If you are unable to join at the time, the Conference will be available to watch on demand following the event. A link to the recording will be sent to all registrants.

CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS, AND GENDER

Impacts of Transgender Ideology

Keynote Speakers

When reality meets fantasy: the impact of transgenderism on children, parents, and their families
Stella O'Malley, Irish psychotherapist, by video

Normative development of sex, sexuality and gender in children and teenagers
Dr. Dianna Kenny, former Professor of Psychology, The University of Sydney, psychologist, psychotherapist, & child development expert

The Strange Rise of the T and the disappearing L - the history of transgenderism and its erasure of lesbians and gays
Margaret Curnow, Lesbian Action for Visibility in Aotearoa, and Suzanne Levy, Speak up for Women

The Implications of the Conversion Practices Prohibition Act 2022 for counsellors, teachers, and parents
Nicolette Levy, QC, and Annabel Markham, Criminal Lawyer, by video

Panel discussion
Margaret Curnow, Suzanne Levy, registered teacher Fern Hickson, parents, and a detransitioner, with opportunity for Q & A.

Women Write Wiki

Members of our group are spread across Australia and New Zealand, so we continue to meet online despite the reopening of The Women's Library. Each time there are four or five attendees and we've had some good discussions about notability and how to add to existing articles without having every edit reverted. We participated in the #1Lib1Ref campaign in May-June, where we help librarians to improve Wikipedia by learning how to add a reference. Individual online training is available and new members are welcome, so please contact FLC if interested in helping with this important work of writing women into Wikipedia.

Please Join as an FLC Member!

For new and existing members, the link to join or renew is [here](#). If you're unsure about your membership status, please check by emailing membership@feministlegal.org

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