



# Parity

## A Call for Contributions – December 2022

The December 2022, "*Homelessness and the Law*" edition of Parity

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**Deadline: COB Monday 21 November 2022**

**Word length: Contributions can be up to 1,600 words. See Page 4 for further details. Submissions to be sent to: [parity@chp.org.au](mailto:parity@chp.org.au)**

### Introduction

In the past several years, Australians have experienced unprecedented times – COVID-19 pandemic, climate emergencies, rapid population growth and migration. These experiences have shaped and changed the landscape of Australia and the impact has been felt most acutely by people without a home or at risk of losing their home. These significant national and global experiences have given rise to a myriad of challenges for people without a home, particularly when these experiences intersect with a person's legal rights or obligations.

In July 2021, the Federal Inquiry into Homelessness in Australia released their final report. The Report acknowledged the intersection between homelessness and a range of legal issues facing people without a home: criminal justice, child protection, tenancy, family violence, immigration, family, as well as the targeted enforcement approach to people sleeping rough. The Inquiry made several recommendations to address these legal issues, yet as of late 2022, there has been no response from the Federal government to this report.

This *Parity* edition is dedicated to the breadth of issues that related to Homelessness and the Law across Australia. The aim of this edition will be to examine how homelessness and the law intersect, the legal needs of people without a home and how the law can and should address their needs.



Who we want to hear from: We want to hear from a broad range of perspectives about homelessness and the law – service providers, legal services, housing workers, people sleeping rough, people experiencing homelessness, people who have experienced periods without a home (short or long-term), people who have used housing legal services, academics, students, lawyers and housing providers.

What we want to hear about: Below is a list of themes and topics that relate to Homelessness and the Law. The below themes are not an exhaustive list and please submit your idea or article even if you have an idea that does not fit into a theme below.

## A Framework for Discussion

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### Part 1: Legal Issues Facing People Experiencing Homelessness

- State by state ‘snap shot’ of homelessness legal issues, in particular tenancy and infringements.
- Ongoing legal issues faced by people experiencing homelessness, including:
  - access and restrictions on the use of public space
  - public space offences (begging, infringements etc)
  - housing and tenancy issues, including evictions and discrimination
  - criminalisation
  - Centrelink breaches
  - credit/debt
  - consumer issues
  - family law
  - child protection
  - mental health and disability.
- How have global/national events impacted or changed the legal issues facing people experiencing homelessness?
- What are the effects of these sorts of legal issues on people who are experiencing homelessness and who are trying to exit homelessness?
- How do these legal issues impact on the capacity of a person to access safe, secure and affordable housing?
- How do these legal issues impact on the experience of homelessness? Can these legal issues make the experience of homelessness even more difficult?
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### **Part 2: Addressing the Legal Needs of People Experiencing Homelessness**

- What are the existing service delivery models for meeting the legal needs of people experiencing homelessness?
- Given COVID and other events, how has service delivery changed and how has this improved/decreased access for people?
- What is the perspective of users of legal services and what could be done better?
- What are considered best practice service delivery models?
- How have consumers and consumer demands changed on services?
- The use of pro bono resources to meet legal needs.
- Issues of access to legal assistance for people experiencing homelessness.
- Funding and impacts on service delivery.

### **Part 3: Consumer Perspectives – People who have lived experience without a home**

- Case studies – tell us your story of homelessness and the law.
- Consumers in advocacy and their achievements.
- The importance of consumer advisory groups.
- Consumer views on any of the themes.

### **Part 4: The Intersection of Legal and Non-legal Issues**

- How can homelessness services, mainstream services and those working to provide legal assistance work better together to achieve a positive outcome for people experiencing homelessness?
  - Casework collaborations
  - Identification of legal issues
  - Legal Health Checks



- In the push for service integration and the better coordination of service responses, what is the role of those providing legal assistance to people experiencing homelessness?
- Given the pressure on frontline homelessness and health services, what are the best-practice models of addressing legal and non-legal needs?

### **Part 5: Making a Difference – Key Systemic Legal Challenges for people without a home**

- What are the key systemic legal challenges facing people without a home?
- What advocacy strategies have been effective in addressing systemic legal issues?
- What are the emerging systemic legal issues, particularly in the context of COVID and with the more widespread use of online courts?
- Community legal education best practice.
- Can problem solving courts make a difference for people experiencing homelessness?
- The use of strategic litigation to address systemic issues.

### **Contributing to the December 2022 "*Homelessness and the Law*" edition of Parity**

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**Deadline:** The deadline for contributions: COB Monday 21 November 2022. Should additional time be required please contact the *Parity* Editor: [parity@chp.org.au](mailto:parity@chp.org.au)

**Submissions format:** All contributions should be submitted as Word attachments to [parity@chp.org.au](mailto:parity@chp.org.au)

**Artwork:** Contributors are invited to submit the artwork they would like to accompany their article. Inclusion is dependent on the space being available. If artwork is not provided and is required, it will be selected by the *Parity* Editor.



**Word length:** Contributions can be up to 1,600 words. This equates to a double page spread in *Parity*. Single page articles can be up to 800 words in length. Contributions of a greater length should be discussed with the *Parity* Editor.

**Questions:** If you have any questions at all about contributing to this edition please contact the *Parity* Editor by email [parity@chp.org.au](mailto:parity@chp.org.au) or ring 0466 619 582.

**Embedded media:** Contributors are able to make suggestions for the placement of relevant hyperlinks, video and other multimedia within their content which can be embedded in the *Parity* online edition. Any suggestions will be reviewed by and decided upon by the *Parity* editor.

## Referencing

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All works that are cited or referred to in an article should be referenced. *Parity* does not encourage contributors to list a bibliography of references used in the development of an article but are *not* cited in the article. There is simply insufficient space for the inclusion of extensive bibliographies. The *Parity* referencing protocol is as follows:

### In-text citations

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CHP uses numbered-citation for all in-text citations.

- Number references consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. The first reference you cite will be numbered (1) in the text, and the second reference you cite will be numbered (2), and so on.
- A number is assigned to each reference as it is used. Even if the author is named in your text, a number must still be used.
- References are listed in numerical order at the end of the document.
- If you use a reference consecutively assign the consecutive number and use *ibid*.
- If the same reference elsewhere in your article, assign the consecutive number and use *op. cit.* For example, Seung S 2012, *op. cit.*, p. 34.
- The number can be placed outside the text punctuation to avoid disruption to the flow of the text.
- If a single sentence uses two or more citations, simply identify the references one after the other.

For example:



International research has found that resilience in a homeless youth sample correlates with lower levels of psychological distress, suicide ideation, violent behaviour and substance abuse. (4) (5)

## Guidelines for Referencing in *Parity*

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All references used in *Parity* articles should be listed using the following guidelines:

### **Books:**

**Author's** surname, initial(s), year of publication, Title of book, Publisher, Place of Publication, Page number(s).

For example:

1. Seung S 2012, *Connectome: How the Brain's Wiring Makes Us Who We Are*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston, p.90.

### **Journal Articles**

Author's surname, initial(s), year of publication, 'Title of article', *Title of Journal*, volume number, issue number, Page number(s).

For example:

Trevithick P 2003 'Effective Relationship Based Practice', *Journal of Social Work Practice*, vol.17, no.2, pp.163-176.

### **Newspaper articles:**

#### **With identified author:**

Authors Surname Initial Year of publication, 'Title of article', *Name of publication*, Date and year of publication, Page number(s) or <URL> if applicable.

For example:

Kissane K 2008, 'Brumby calls for tough sentences', *The Age*, 29 October 2017, p. 8.

#### **With no author:**

Use 'Unknown' For example:

Unknown 2008, 'Brumby calls for tough sentences', *The Age*, 29 October 2017, p. 8.

#### **Webpage/document within a website or blog Post:**

Author's surname (if known) Initial, 'Page/Blog/Document Title', *The person or organisation responsible for the website*, Year of Publication (if known) <URL> For example:



Greenblatt S, 'A special letter from Stephen Greenblatt', Australian Council of Social Services, 2017 <<http://acoss.org/media/greenblatt>>

**Audio podcast:**

Speaker/Hosts surname Initial, 'Title of episode', *Title of Podcast*, Year and date of Publication, <URL> (if available).

For example:

Todd B 2018, 'What homelessness looks like for women', Stuff Mom Never Told You, 14 March 2018 <<https://www.stuffmomnevertoldyou.com/podcasts/what-homelessness-looks-like-for-women.html>>

**Online video/film or documentary:**

*Title* Date of recording, Format, Publisher. For example:

*Indigenous homelessness* 1992, video recording, Green Cape Wildlife Films.

**Personal communication:**

Personal communication may include (but are not limited to) email, fax, interview, conversations, lectures, speeches, telephone conversations and letters. Usually personal communications do not appear, as the information is not retrievable. However, due to the numbered citations used in *Parity*, we ask that they be included as follows:

**Author's** surname First name, Method of communication, Date and year of Communication

For example:

Johnson George, Telephone interview, 12 August 2018.

**Citing the same reference more than once:**

When a reference is cited a number of times, use op cit. after the year has been given. If the page number is different from the first use, cite the new page number as well.

For example:

Asante K O and Meyer-Weitz A 2015 op cit. pp. 230-231.

**Citing the same reference consecutively**

Use *Ibid.* when the same reference appears consecutively. If the page number is different from the first use, cite the page number as well.

For example:

1. Florn B H 2015, 'The cost of youth homelessness', *Journal of Adolescence*, vol.17, no.2, pp.163-176.
2. *Ibid.* pp.32-33.



### **Multiple Authors**

For every reference type, give all the authors Surnames and first Initials followed by a comma in the bibliography. The last author listed should be preceded by 'and'.

For example:

Sharp J, Peters J and Howard K 2002, The management of a student research project, Gower, Aldershot, England.

### **Content**

By providing your contribution, you confirm and agree that (except where you have referenced or cited any other's work) the contribution is your original work and has not been copied from any other source.

### **Use of content**

If your contribution is accepted, it will be published by or on CHP's behalf in an edition of the *Parity* magazine. *Parity* is available in hard copy and online.

### **Online copies of back editions of *Parity* can be found on:**

<http://search.informit.com.au/browseJournalTitle;res=IELHSS;issn=1032-6170>

### **Assistance and Questions**

Feedback, input and assistance can be provided with drafts if required. The *Parity* editor is available at all stages of the preparation of your contribution to look at drafts and provide input and feedback. The earlier drafts are received for feedback, the better.

If prospective contributors have any questions they should contact the *Parity* Editor, Noel Murray, [parity@chp.org.au](mailto:parity@chp.org.au) Ph: 0466 619 582