



CrimNet

Sydney Institute of Criminology



CrimNet is a criminal justice information network sponsored by the Sydney Institute of Criminology. CrimNet provides regular communication between criminal justice professionals, practitioners, academics and students in Australia and overseas. Share CrimNet with your peers and help grow the network.

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High Court halts deportation of Aboriginal non-citizens

Love and Thoms v Commonwealth of Australia [2020] HCA 3

The Federal Parliament may make laws in relation to ‘naturalization and aliens’ under s.51(xix) of the [Australian Constitution](#). The question that arose for the first time in this case was whether an Aboriginal non-citizen who failed the ‘character test’ under s.501 of the *Migration Act 1958*, after being sentenced for a crime committed in Australia, could be deported by the government under the ‘aliens’ power. The two plaintiffs claimed Aboriginality according to the tripartite test in [Mabo \(No 2\)](#): biological descent, self-identification and recognition by the traditional community. They were born overseas and lived most of their lives in Australia but never obtained Australian citizenship. After serving sentences for criminal offences committed in Australia they were placed in immigration detention pending deportation.

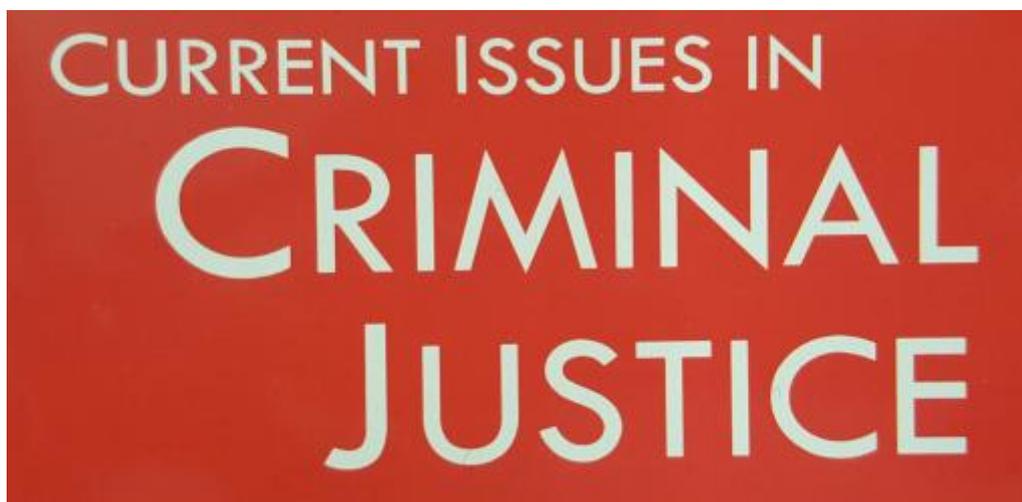
By a majority of four (Bell, Nettle, Gordon and Edelman JJ) to three (Kiefel CJ, Gageler and Keane JJ), the High Court determined that an Aboriginal person, identifying and accepted by their community as such, is beyond the scope of the ‘aliens’ power under s.51(xix). The word ‘alien’ is not defined in the Constitution. It is for the High Court, not Parliament, to define the term. Non-citizenship does not equate in all cases with alienage.

There is a unique historical connection between Aboriginal societies and the lands they occupied at the time the Crown acquired sovereignty, a connection which ‘runs deeper than the accident of birth in the territory or immediate parentage’. The Crown’s obligation of permanent protection to a resident Aboriginal non-citizen ‘extends to not casting that person out of Australia as if he or she were an alien’ (Nettle J). Gordon J said the question of alienage is ‘fundamentally a question of “otherness”.’ As descendants of the first people of this country, Aboriginal Australians are in a unique position; they are not outsiders or foreigners. Their connection with the land and waters of Australia ‘is older and deeper than the Constitution’ and was neither severed nor extinguished by European arrival, Federation or anything since. Edelman J responded to the

Commonwealth's argument that a decision in favour of the plaintiffs would lead to unequal treatment of other non-citizens by stating this view 'reflects a human inclination towards homogeneity [and] ...misunderstands the concept of equality before the law. To treat differences as though they were alike is not equality. It is a denial of community. Any tolerant view of community must recognise that community is based upon difference.'

Sydney Institute of Criminology Deputy Director [Andrew Dyer](#) notes the 'predictable claims of judicial activism' in response to the majority's decision and says that this reaction 'makes it practically inevitable – if it was not already – that their Honours will now retreat to a more cautious approach to their law-making function'.

[Read the full High Court judgment here.](#)



Current Issues in Criminal Justice

The latest issue of the Institute's Journal, [Current Issues in Criminal Justice, Volume 32:1](#), is online and available now. It includes six articles covering issues as diverse as mass incarceration in the United States, the use of algorithms and AI to predict risk in criminal procedures bias crime reporting, police use of social media, copycat crimes, sex offending among incarcerated men with low intellectual functioning, and systems abuse in relation to family violence protection orders. The issue also includes a commentary on the potential impact of online communities and crime-related media on the criminal justice system.

It was announced in December 2019 that *Current Issues in Criminal Justice* has been accepted for inclusion in **Scopus**, with the Scopus reviewers stating that the journal 'consistently includes articles that are scientifically sound and relevant to an international academic or professional audience in this field.'

To access the latest issue of CICJ, [visit the Sydney Institute of Criminology website here.](#)



Queer Law in Emotional Times

6.00pm, Wednesday 4 March 2020, University of Sydney

The Sydney Institute of Criminology is hosting a conversation between [Dr Senthoran Raj](#) (Keele University) and readers of his new book, [Feeling Queer Jurisprudence: Injury, Intimacy, Identity](#) (Routledge, 2020).

Drawing on emotions, queer theory, and case law, *Feeling Queer Jurisprudence* explores how LGBT rights have been made possible, and also circumscribed, by progressive legal interventions. This book catalogues a range of cases from Australia, the United States, and the United Kingdom to unpack how emotion shapes the decriminalisation of homosexuality, hate crime interventions, anti-discrimination measures, refugee protection, and marriage equality. This book shows that reading jurisprudence through emotions can make space in law to affirm, rather than disavow, intimacies and identities that queer conventional ideas about 'LGBT progress', without having to abandon legal pursuits to protect LGBT people. Speakers include [Professor Kane Race](#) (University of Sydney), [Dr Renata Grossi](#) (UTS), and [Anna Brown](#) (CEO, Equality Australia).

[Register here for this free event.](#)



Throughcare needs of Indigenous people leaving prison in WA and NT

While approximately 2% of the Australian adult population in 2018 identified as either Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, they constitute 28% of the national prison population. Even higher rates are evident in Western Australia (39%) and the Northern Territory (84%). Effective throughcare strategies, whereby a prisoner is given comprehensive case management in the lead up to release and throughout their transition to life in the community, are essential to reducing rates of recidivism.

Hilde Tubex, John Rynne and Harry Blagg authored both an Australian Institute of Criminology *Trends and Issues* paper and a more detailed report regarding the throughcare needs of Indigenous men and women after release from prison in WA and the NT. Thirty-eight interviews were conducted involving 59 people. Participants expressed concerns about the failure to consider offending and reoffending against the background of colonisation, intergenerational trauma and ongoing deprivation; the clash of western and Indigenous lifestyles; the lack of suitable housing; barriers to returning to the community; the absence of flexible employment opportunities and financial stress. Participants discussed the need for prison programs tailored to an Indigenous audience and noted a lack of coordination and collaboration in existing service delivery. Of significant concern is the fact that there are very few throughcare programs or services specifically for Indigenous women.

The report makes a number of recommendations, including:

- the establishment of throughcare pathways at the point of first contact with the criminal justice system
- the establishment and strengthening of an Aboriginal / Elders Visiting Scheme for cultural healing and guidance throughout the prison sentence
- collaboration between a prison case officer and external Aboriginal throughcare services to provide continuity of care and support
- access to culturally appropriate programs for and by Indigenous peoples in custody
- the identification of safe accommodation prior to release
- the coordination of external service provision across providers.

To be effective, throughcare strategies should involve families and other community members and be delivered by and in collaboration with Indigenous people and their communities.

Read the [AIC Trends and Issues study here](#) and the [full report here](#).



Shooting deaths in police custody

Australian Institute of Criminology Statistical Bulletin

Shooting deaths in police custody include incidents where a person was fatally injured in the process of being arrested or detained, wherever occurring. In this Statistical Bulletin, Laura Doherty and Samantha Bricknell considered data from the National Deaths in Custody Program (NDICP) and coronial records to examine shooting deaths in police custody between 2006-2007 and 2016-2017.

Eight-two (30%) of all deaths in police custody during this period were a result of shootings. Forty-seven of these (57%) were police shootings and 35 (43%) were self-inflicted. The overall death rate has generally remained stable, despite some fluctuations, since the implementation of the NDICP in 1992. Indigenous people comprised 6% of shooting deaths in police custody.

Shooting deaths were strongly correlated with mental illness (61% had or were suspected of having a mental illness) and substance abuse (49% consumed alcohol or drugs prior to their death). A significant proportion of deaths (75%) occurred in the context of the deceased being detained in relation to a violent offence. All deaths from 2011-2012 onwards involved the possession by the deceased of a weapon. Knives were the most common weapon (41%), followed by firearms (31%). Coronial inquests conducted on 39 cases involving a police shooting in custody concluded that 95% of the deaths were justifiable on the basis of self-defence or the defence of others. Two cases were deemed not to have been justifiable. Recommendations arising from these inquests emphasise the need to improve police training and health services with respect to mental illness.

[Read the AIC Statistical Bulletin here.](#)

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Events, seminars and conferences

Exhibition Lurid: Crime Paperbacks and Pulp Fiction

Fisher Library, University of Sydney

There has long been a thirst for cheap, mass produced depictions of violence and crime narratives, from eighteenth century crime 'broadsides' sold at public executions to nineteenth century 'penny dreadfuls'. Rare Books and Special Collections at the University of Sydney's Fisher Library holds an extensive collection of detective fiction, encompassing twentieth century crime novels as well as pulp fiction series. Now, for the first time, some of these books will be on display.

Lurid: Crime Paperbacks and Pulp Fiction will showcase works by the likes of Raymond Chandler and Patricia Highsmith – focusing on their cover designs. The exhibit has been curated by [Dr Carolyn McKay](#), Senior Lecturer and Deputy Director, Sydney Institute of Criminology at Sydney Law School, in conjunction with Julie Price, Liaison Librarian Rare Books and Special Collections at the University of Sydney. The mid-century, green-saturated period of Penguin crime literature paperbacks is contrasted with the racy titles and garish, titillating and often misogynistic designs that adorn pulp fiction covers.

The exhibit is on now at Fisher Library **throughout semester one**. [Read more about the 'Lurid' exhibition here.](#)

Lecture Strangling Accountability: Silencing Dissent and Undermining Integrity

6.00-7.30pm, Tuesday, 19 March 2020, University of Sydney

The inaugural annual lecture of The Centre for Public Integrity will be delivered by The Honourable Stephen Pendrill Charles AO. Mr Charles served on the Supreme Court of Victoria Court of Appeal between 1995 and 2006.

Mr Charles has long held an interest in matters of accountability and integrity. He was Counsel for ASIC during the Combe Royal Commission, and Counsel Assisting the Parliamentary Commission into the conduct of Justice Lionel Murphy. In 2011 Mr Charles chaired the panel advising the Victorian Premier on the design of the Independent Broad-based Commission Against Corruption. He has been advocating for the establishment of a strong and independent National Integrity Commission for many years.

In 2017 Mr Charles was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to the law and to the judiciary, particularly in the areas of commercial arbitration and mediation, to judicial administration, and to legal professional organisations. In 2019 Mr Charles became a founding Director of The Centre for Public Integrity.

This lecture is co-hosted by [The Centre for Public Integrity](#) and the [University of Sydney Law School](#). [Register here for this free event.](#)

Symposium Context Matters: Understanding, Preventing and Responding To Sexual Violence And Abuse

9:00am-4:30pm, Tuesday 7 April 2020, Sunshine Coast, Queensland

The [Sexual Violence Research and Prevention Unit](#) at the University of Sunshine Coast will host a one-day symposium to bring together national and international experts to discuss the importance of context for preventing sexual violence and abuse and improving community safety.

There is growing recognition, and a developing evidence base, supporting the contextual dynamics of sexual violence and abuse. Lessons learned from Australia's Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, for example, drew attention to contextual factors (organisational leadership, policies and practice) that create conditions that might either increase risk, or protect against, sexual abuse. Multidisciplinary research evidence also shows how family, peer, school and neighbourhood settings may also contribute to abusive behaviour. Collectively this highlights the need to ensure prevention strategies, as well as responses to sexual abuse, are contextualised.

Confirmed speakers include: Dr Carlene Firmin (University of Bedfordshire, UK), Dr Tess Patterson (University of Otago, NZ), Emeritus Professor Stephen Smallbone (Griffith Criminology Institute, Griffith University), Professor Daryl Higgins (Institute of Child Protection Studies, Australian Catholic University), Dr Kelly Richards (School of Justice, QUT) and Dr Danielle Harris (Griffith Youth Forensic Service, Griffith University).

This symposium will be of interest to academics, practitioners and policy professionals working in the area of policing, child safety, youth justice, corrections, counselling services, education, law and health. Tickets cost \$100 per person and seating is limited. [Register for this event here](#).

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New publications

Article He 'Came Across as Someone Who Was Telling the Truth': Pell v The Queen

Andrew Dyer and David Hamer (2020) *Sydney Law Review*

George Pell was convicted of one charge of sexual penetration of a child under 16 years and four charges of performing an indecent act with a child under 16 years while he was the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne. His appeal against his convictions was dismissed by the [Victorian Court of Appeal](#) by a majority of two to one. Pell's application for special leave from the Court of Appeal's decision has been [referred to the Full Court of the High Court](#). The case is listed for hearing in Canberra on 11 March 2020.

In this article for the 'Before the High Court' column in the *Sydney Law Review*, Deputy Director of the Sydney Institute of Criminology, [Andrew Dyer](#) and Professor [David Hamer](#) consider Pell's grounds of appeal and whether the majority of the Court of Appeal was right to find that it was open to the jury at Pell's second trial to find him guilty. According to the authors, if the Court grants Pell special leave to appeal, it should reject Pell's submission that the Court of Appeal majority's own reasoning left open a reasonable possibility of Pell's innocence; contrary to Pell's submission, the majority did not require him to

establish that the offending was impossible, thereby reversing the onus of proof. Rather, their Honours correctly held that, once it was open to the jury to find it proved beyond reasonable doubt that Pell had an opportunity to offend as alleged, there was no logical bar to proof of his guilt.

However, the authors argue that a significant body of evidence, particularly the evidence regarding Pell's opportunity to offend, made it difficult for the Crown to prove its case. Mr Dyer adds that this case is 'close to the borderline between one where the jury was entitled to return a guilty verdict and one where it should have had a doubt' and that, 'when deciding on which side of the border this case falls, the High Court might well attach much weight to the established principle that – because the jury has seen and heard the witnesses, and because it is the constitutional arbiter of guilt – its verdicts are not lightly to be disturbed'.

[Read the full article here.](#)

Report Obstacles to Effective Support of People Released from Prison: Wisdom from the Field

Melanie Schwartz, Sophie Russell, Eileen Baldry, David Brown, Chris Cunneen, Julie Stubbs (2020)

The number of people in prisons across Australian states and territories has increased by 40% in the last five years and NSW accounts for 32% of Australia's total prison population. Over the last 12 months, more than 19,000 people have left NSW prisons and returned to their communities, but a significant number of these people will return. People in prison have a range of social, health, economic, education and disability related needs; ensuring they are adequately supported in their transition from prison to the community has significant human rights, social justice and community safety implications.

This report arises out of a roundtable held at the University of New South Wales in 2018 with some of the key community sector organisations providing support to people leaving prison in NSW. It focuses on four broad areas emerging from the roundtable: concerns relating to service referrals and exiting custody practices; the health needs of people leaving prison, particularly with regard to mental health disorders, cognitive impairment and substance addiction; housing instability and homelessness; and the need for long-term funding stability and strong evaluation frameworks.

Addressing reoffending and reimprisonment requires a coordinated whole-of-government approach across justice, community and welfare services, housing and health. In order to break cycles of chronic disadvantage and imprisonment, community-based services with expertise in working with criminalised populations must be appropriately funded and adequately resourced to provide long-term support to people with complex needs. The report recommends:

1. appropriate community-sector-led throughcare for people leaving prison
2. timely access to a range of community-based and in prison trauma-informed services
3. adequate access to safe and stable housing for people exiting prison
4. appropriate funding of community-based post-release support services.

[Read the report here.](#)

Interim Report **Review of NSW Police Force Standard Operating Procedures for strip searches in custody**

Law Enforcement Conduct Commission

[Section 31\(a\)](#) of the *Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002* provides that a police officer may carry out a strip search if, at a police station or other place of detention, the officer suspects on reasonable grounds that the strip search is necessary for the purposes of the search.

The NSW Law Enforcement Conduct Commission ('LECC') presented an interim report to Parliament on strip searches in custody as part of its ongoing inquiry into this practice. The report focuses on the policy direction provided to police officers in Standard Operating Procedures ('SOPs'). The review found a concerning level of inconsistency in the 113 locally managed SOPs addressing searches in custody. Many gave inadequate, incorrect or incomplete instruction about conducting strip searches.

In a draft report to the NSW Police Force in July 2019, the LECC made five recommendations to address these issues. In response, the NSW Police Force introduced new statewide *Charge Room and Custody Management SOPs* as well as a *Person Search Manual*. While the LECC welcomed these new policies, it concluded that a number of critical issues were still not adequately addressed, including the extent to which a person is required to actively assist a search, the use of force, and how to satisfy the mandatory requirement of using a support person when conducting strip searches of young and vulnerable people.

[Read the LECC's Interim Report here.](#)

Trends & Issues **Australian outlaw motorcycle gang involvement in violent and organised crime**

Australian Institute of Criminology

Using national data on the criminal histories of 5,669 known outlaw motorcycle gang (OMCG) members from 39 gangs, this Australian Institute of Criminology *Trends and Issues* paper explores the prevalence of violent and organised crime offending among Australian OMCGs.

OMCGs attract members with a propensity for committing violent and organised crime and facilitate further offending among their members. Violent and profit-motivated offending was common among OMCG members. One in four had been apprehended for a recent offence (occurring in the previous five years) involving violence and intimidation, while half had a recorded history of violent offending. A relatively small proportion of members accounted for a disproportionate amount of offending and associated harm. The paper concludes that further work is needed to develop a better understanding of the individual and group-level factors that contribute to higher rates of criminal offending among OMCG members and gangs.

[Read the AIC Trends & Issues Paper here.](#)

Trends & Issues **Phishing risks in a university student**

community

Australian Institute of Criminology

Spam emails range from harmless, albeit annoying, advertising to emails containing viruses or malware designed to exploit personal or sensitive information to facilitate cybercrime. Phishing emails typically play on the recipient's curiosity, fear or empathy. In this Australian Institute of Criminology quasi-experimental study of 138 university students, participants were sent three types of scam emails varying in degree of individualisation: generic, tailored and targeted or 'spear'. Only 25 subjects received individualised spear-phishing emails. A sub-sample of the participants (designated as 'hunters') were primed with reminders to be more vigilant for scam emails than other ('passive') participants.

The study found that there was no significant difference in scam susceptibility between male and female participants, participants with low and high levels of IT competence or those with low and high perceptions of internet safety. International and first-year students were the most vulnerable to email scams. Despite participants in the 'hunter' condition being primed to remain vigilant for cybercrime, this did not reduce their scam susceptibility. Participants were most susceptible to a tailored scam with the heading 'Final Examination Timetable: Update'. The paper concludes with a recommendation for further studies with larger samples and a greater variety of social engineering methods.

[Read the AIC Trends & Issues paper here.](#)

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Jobs and opportunities

Job Director, Criminal Justice System, NSW Department of Communities and Justice

This role will lead a team responsible for developing the NSW Government's strategic approach to policy setting for the criminal justice system. The main focus areas of this role include:

- developing major reforms throughout the criminal justice system, across areas such as sentencing, bail, youth justice and the management of offenders from vulnerable groups
- delivering evidence-based decision making and developing logical, practical and well balanced reform positions
- anticipating and responding to issues which may impede the effective implementation of criminal justice policies, particularly where implementation is controlled by other agencies within the cluster or across the public sector.

Applications close **Sunday 1 March 2020**. [For more information and to apply, visit the 'I work for NSW' website here.](#)

Job Senior Lecturer / Associate Professor in Criminology

& Justice

University of Sunshine Coast, Queensland

The School of Law and Criminology at the University of the Sunshine Coast is seeking a Senior Lecturer or Associate Professor in Criminology and Justice. Its mission is to provide a personal, inspiring and rigorous learning environment that empowers graduates to be career- and future- ready and to be able to make a significant contribution to their communities. The School offers Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Criminology and Justice, Bachelor of Criminology and Justice Honours and Higher Degree Research (HDR) degrees. The Bachelor of Criminology and Justice program commenced in 2015 and has grown to include a number of double degrees, an honours program and a vibrant HDR community. It also houses the first university-led Sexual Violence Research and Prevention Unit.

Applications close midnight, **Wednesday 4 March 2020**. [For more information visit the website here.](#)

Nominations Asian Criminological Society 2020 Distinguished Book Award

The Asian Criminological Society (ACS) is accepting nominations for the 2020 ACS Distinguished Book Award until **29 February 2020**. The Committee comprises ACS President Setsuo Miyazawa, Committee Chair Peter Grabosky and Aki Roberts.

Books on crime and criminal justice in Asia published in English in the calendar year of 2019 are eligible for nomination. In addition to single-authored books, co-authored books are eligible, but collected works are not.

Nominations, including self-nominations, must be submitted to Peter Grabosky by email at Peter.Grabosky@anu.edu.au or PO Box 9054, Deakin, ACT, 2600. Nominators are required to ask the publisher or the author of the nominated book to send a review copy to every committee member by 29 February 2020.

Up to two Awards and up to two Honorary Mentions will be announced by 15 July 2020. An award ceremony will be held during the 2020 annual meeting of the ACS during the [Asian Criminological Society Conference](#) on 2-5 October 2020 in Kyoto, Japan. The ACS regrets that it is unable to provide travel grants.

Nominations Asian Criminological Society Graduate Student Article Award

The Asian Criminological Society (ACS) is accepting nominations for the 2020 ACS **Graduate Student Article Award** until **31 March 2020**.

Journal articles on crime and criminal justice in Asia published in English in the calendar year of 2018 and 2019 are eligible. The author must be a graduate student by the time the article was submitted to the journal. In addition to single-authored articles, co-authored articles are eligible. In case of co-authored articles, all the authors must be graduate students at the time of submission.

Nominations, including self-nominations, must be submitted to Chuen-Jim Sheu, the Committee Chair, with the URL of the nominated article, by email at

Up to two Awards and up to two Honorary Mentions will be announced by 30 June 2020. An award ceremony will be held during the 2020 annual meeting of the ACS during the [Asian Criminological Society Conference](#) on 2-5 October 2020 in Kyoto, Japan. The ACS regrets that it is unable to provide travel grants.

Call for abstracts Contemporary Societies in Motion

Conference: Athens, 29-30 May 2020

The National Kapodistrian University of Athens, National Center for Social Research, Center for the Study of Crime, and the ESC Working Group on Qualitative Research Methodologies and Epistemologies are holding a joint conference in Athens on 29-30 May 2020, titled 'Contemporary societies in motion: Pioneering qualitative research methods in the study of deviance and social control'.

Various social settings influence every aspect of social life and new types of deviance, crime and social control have emerged in our contemporary societies. Disciplines from a wide range of fields like criminology, anthropology, sociology, political sciences, development studies, media and many more are constantly developing new methods to understand and interpret the hidden aspects of the changes by making more visible the invisible and uncovering the unprecedented. Methodological and epistemological issues involved in the study of the new dynamics of deviance and social control trigger the academic dialogue and research. In addition, the changing terms of researchers' engagement and the risks, dangers and ethics of doing research on deviance and its formal and/or informal regulation provoke our attention and leave enough space for reflexivity upon our own works, as well as the research methods we use such as ethnography, phenomenology, visual, participatory and their further development.

The Organizing Committee invites proposals on a range of topics, such as:

- Multiple (mixed) methods in approaching deviance and social control
- Qualitative research vis-a-vis Big-data; new challenges for criminology
- Changing paradigms of qualitative research methods
- Phenomenological approaches in criminology
- Ethnographies of movements: (sub)urban changes in context
- Crime discourses and narrations in Ethnomethodology
- Participatory (action) research with the excluded and the enclosed
- Contemporary inequalities and power dynamics in criminal justice
- Life-histories of the controllers and the controlled
- Postcolonial research perspectives in criminology
- Visual and kinesics approaches: victims and offenders
- Studying emotions, seductions and harms in crime and punishment
- (Metanalysis): Stories behind the stories from the field
- Gender-based research perspectives in deviance and social control
- (Un)Lawful identities: research illustrations in progress
- Digital 'portraits' of deviance and social control
- Doing research on the (inter)net
- Between borders and barriers: constructing methodologies and epistemologies
- Ethical boundaries of criminological research

The deadline for abstract proposals is **31 March 2020**. [For more information visit the website here.](#)

Call for abstracts Beyond Cybercrime: New perspectives on crime, harm and digital technologies

The last decade has seen the emergence of scholarship examining the nexus between crime, justice and digital technologies through a distinctly critical criminological lens. Taking an interdisciplinary approach to the nexus between crime, digital technologies, and justice, such digital criminological scholarship encompasses and extends the remit of traditional 'cyber' and computer crime research. In doing so, it also attempts to rethink how digital technologies are conceptualised and accounted for in criminological research, moving beyond notions of cyberspace and online/offline dichotomies to account for the increasingly 'onlife' way technologies change how crime is perceived, perpetrated, and responded to.

The **International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy** is seeking abstracts for a special issue, guest edited by Faith Gordon, Alyce McGovern, Chrissy Thompson and Mark A Wood. This special issue seeks to further expand digital criminological scholarship through critically examining how digital technologies are conceptualised within research into crime and justice. In doing so, the editors welcome contributions that bring criminology into conversation with fields such as digital sociology, human-computer interaction, media studies, science and technology studies, software studies, and the philosophy of technology. The editors invite articles that take an interdisciplinary approach to rethinking the crime-technology nexus in research concerning issues including, but not limited to:

- Computer-facilitated crime
- Surveillance, sousveillance, and counter-surveillance
- Digilantism, informal justice and social media activism
- Big Data, preventive policing, and criminal justice
- Crime prevention
- Public criminology
- Crime causation theory
- State and corporate crime
- Global crime.

Abstracts, due **30 April 2020**, should be no longer than 300 words and can be submitted to guest editor Mark A Wood at mark.wood@deakin.edu.au. [More information about the call for abstracts and the Journal is available here.](#)

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Staff Profile

Meet Letitia Davy

Letitia Davy is a Research Assistant in the Sydney Law School working closely with

Professors Rita Shackel and Judy Cashmore on projects concerning child sexual abuse and criminal prosecutions. Letitia first joined the Sydney Law School in 2019 as the Coordinator, Sydney Institute of Criminology.

Letitia is currently working on an ARC study, *Threshold decisions in determining whether to prosecute child sexual abuse*; is involved in progressing an ambitious agenda from the 2019 Child Sexual Abuse Roundtable hosted by the Institute; and is organising the Prosecuting Crime Symposium to be held in August 2020 and co-hosted by the National University of Singapore (Partnership Collaboration Awards).

Letitia has held senior roles in the NSW Police Commissioner's Office, including Principal Advisor, Team Leader in the Executive Advisory Unit and Executive Officer to Deputy Commissioners and Commissioners. Letitia worked directly on most criminal justice reforms in NSW for a decade, with a particular focus on child sexual abuse and counter terrorism.

Letitia's path to the Commissioner's office was an unorthodox one. She was first employed by the NSW Police Force as a professional singer for its 28-piece band. From there, Letitia had a stint in Police Prosecutions to complete her practical legal training and then moved to the Police Executive. Prior to working in the justice sector, Letitia was the Communications Manager for Dymocks Booksellers. Letitia



holds a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts (English Literature and History) from the University of NSW and is an admitted solicitor. She hasn't ruled out further study.

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