



LABOUR LAW SEMINAR

Do Investment Attraction Incentives Create Decent Jobs? A Study of Labour Conditions in Industry Assistance Contracts

Governments at all levels in Australia offer financial assistance in one form or another to private corporations in order to encourage and facilitate business investment in their respective jurisdictions. This disbursement of public funds is often justified on the basis of the number of jobs that will be created by the assisted firm. From a labour law perspective, this rationale begs the question of whether governments seek to influence the quality of jobs to be created by corporations receiving assistance.

This seminar presents preliminary findings from research conducted by John Howe and Ingrid Landau on how three state governments in Australia (NSW, Queensland and Victoria) use industry assistance to pursue public policy goals relating to job quality and the character of employment relations in assisted corporations. The seminar will explore the promises and pitfalls of this approach, drawing on developments in the United States.

Dr John Howe is a Senior Lecturer in the Law School at the University of Melbourne. His research interests include regulatory theory, labour law and corporate accountability. He has written extensively on various mechanisms of labour regulation, and the intersection between state-based regulation and corporate governance. John is co-editor of the book *Labour Law and Labour Market Regulation* published by Federation Press in 2006, and his book *Regulating for Job Creation* will be published by Federation Press in late 2008.

DATE: Friday 29th August 2008
TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 pm
PLACE: Room 920 (Level 9) Melbourne Law School
185 Pelham Street, Carlton VIC 3010
RSVP: Register online via <http://celrl.law.unimelb.edu.au/>

A light lunch will be served