



Australian
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Phillipa Weeks Lecture in Labour Law

The Forgotten Contract; the Contract of Employment. Past, present and future

Wednesday 5 October 2011 5.30 – 6.30pm

Presented by

Justice Peter Gray, Federal Court of Australia

Sparke Helmore Theatre 1, ANU College of Law, Fellows Road, The Australian National University



The contract of employment was a creature of the industrial revolution, replacing the relationship of master and servant, which had been highly regulated by law. It has never managed to shake off its history, with the result that it still has a great number of legally prescribed incidents. The courts have been reluctant to treat employment contracts in the same way as other contracts, especially with respect to termination and remedies. The result is a legal system that favours heavily one party to the contract, at the expense of the other. The lecture will take a cautious look at what the future should be.

Justice Gray has had a passion for labour law since he first studied it at the University of Melbourne. He gained experience as associate to a judge of the Commonwealth Industrial Court (Eggleston J). He studied under the great Otto Kahn-Freund and Mark Freedland at Oxford. At the Victorian Bar, he developed a specialist labour law practice on a national basis. Since 1984, he has been a judge of the Federal Court of Australia. In 1994, he was also appointed as a judge of the Industrial Relations Court of Australia. He sees labour law as having vital effects on the lives of people.

The views expressed in this lecture are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University

Presented by

ANU College of
Law

RSVP

by **Monday 3 October**

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