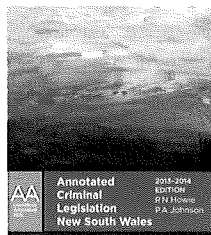


Annotated Criminal Legislation in NSW 2013-14



R N Howie QC
and P A Johnson

LexisNexis
Annotated Acts

LexisNexis

RRP \$105



This text is a comprehensive and handy guide to the criminal legislation in NSW. It not only includes substantive offence provisions under the various acts, it also covers the key procedural provisions and includes a 'walkthrough' to proceedings in the introductory section.

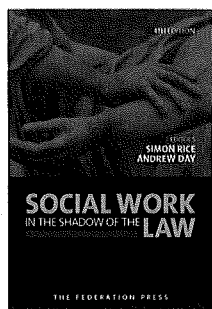
The main text is divided into eight key areas: criminal procedure, sentencing, trial procedure, crimes, bail, drugs, summary offences and investigation. The *Quick Reference Directory* along with shaded tabs makes it quick and easy to navigate. This makes the text useful for both in-court and out of court use. The extremely helpful annotations include references to leading authorities so the text can be used for case preparation as well as research. An index, cross-referencing system and table of cases make it even easier to search for relevant material.

The 2013-2014 edition contains legislation current to 11 October 2013 and encompasses a range of amendments introduced in 2013. However, it is important to note that this edition includes a copy of the *Bail Act 1978* which is now repealed. The new *Bail Act 2013* took effect on 20 May 2014 and fundamentally changed the system of bail in NSW. In particular, the former presumptions no longer exist and a new test applies whereby a Court must consider whether there is "unacceptable risk" before determining to grant conditional bail or refuse bail. Practitioners who regularly appear in NSW would now be familiar with the new Act and thus the chapter on bail in this particular text can be retired to the archives.

The broad coverage of this text means it can be used at all levels of practice of the criminal law in NSW, from the Local Court to the Court of Criminal Appeal and beyond. Despite the now out of date version of the *Bail Act*, this text remains a must have for practitioners appearing over the border either regularly or even just on the odd occasion.

James Maher, Kamy Saeedi Law

Social Work in the Shadow of the Law



Simon Rice and
Andrew Day

4th edition

Federation Press

RRP \$80

This very important book offers contributions from 35 authors on the legal aspects and contexts of social work practice. There are useful and insightful chapters on evidence, courts and tribunals, mediation in family law matters, financial issues, mental health law, domestic violence, child and elder abuse, out-of-home care for children, homelessness, adoption, bereavement through sudden and unexpected death, refugees and asylum seekers, LGBT people and the law, indigenous Australians, corrections, juvenile justice, social rights for people with an intellectual disability, and mental health law.

The book features a change of title from earlier editions (previously '*In the Shadow of the Law*') and a new editorial team. The change in title is highly appropriate given the many things (certainly not restricted to social work) which occur 'in the shadow of the law'.

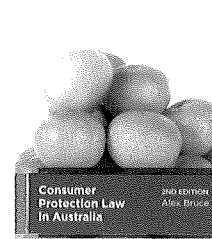
The opening chapter of *Social Work in the Shadow of the Law* (SWITSOTL), "Why social work and the law?" is by the pioneer and principal editor of the book's earlier editions, Phillip Swain. It offers a reflective observation on the relationship between these two disparate but intersecting worlds. The second chapter, by Spencer Zifcak, considers the reconciliation of legal and social work practice.

As with earlier iterations, this book also cites relevant case law and legislation, and in Swain's words, continues to 'raise for a variety of settings issues of practice, of skill, and of the intricacies of dealing with the legal system and legal advisers'.

SWITSOTL continues to offer a useful resource, particularly for social work and human resource practitioners, and students of both those disciplines. It is also a useful reference for legal practitioners who will gain an alternative perspective on the way the law impacts on those who may be less fortunate for a whole range of reasons.

Allison Ballard, Bradley Allen Love Lawyers

Consumer Protection Law in Australia



Alex Bruce

2nd edition

LexisNexis

RRP \$115



Consumer Protection Law in Australia is written in a clear and easily to understand style, and expands on the previous scholarship in this area of law. Starting with an introduction to the national consumer protection regime and the Australian Consumer Law (ACL), the text goes on to include detailed dissertations on such topics as misleading and deceptive conduct, unfair contracts, unconscionable conduct, false and misleading representations, industry codes of conduct and both public and private enforcement. Helpfully, each chapter contains a statement of objectives, a summary of the essential principles discussed as well as resources for further reading and research.

In each chapter, the author incorporates philosophical and ethical discussion with both practical issues and the related legal framework. I found this approach to be most helpful in facilitating a greater understanding not only of the current consumer protection regulatory framework in Australia but also of the historical context from which our law has evolved.

The author raises the interesting question of the ACL's definition of 'trade and commerce' compared with the definition in s4 the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) (the CCA Act). He notes the definition in s2 of the ACL includes the phrase 'any business or professional activity (whether or not carried on for profit)' while the CCA Act definition does not. His analysis of particular forms of unfair practices, customer guarantees regimes, manufacturers' liabilities and industry codes of conduct is both comprehensive and informative. His treatment of remedies is inclusive and easy to follow.

Consumer Protection Law in Australia is suitable not only as a teaching text, but also for both the legal practitioner with an interest in this developing area of the law. The general reader interested in consumer protection will also find much of interest in this absorbing treatise.

Don Malcolmson, Malcolmson Lawyers