

Socio-Legal Research Centre &



Notice of Seminar

When: Wednesday 12 May, 2010

(12:15 pm arrival for) **12:30 pm - 2:00 pm**

Host: Nathan Campus, Room 2.06, Building N54
(Bray Centre)

with videoconference link to:

Gold Coast Campus, Room 3.01, Building G23
(Multimedia)

RSVP: Joanne or Clare on (07) 3735 3747 or
slrc-events@griffith.edu.au

“Comparative Perspectives on the Right to Human Dignity in the Age of Terror?”

by

Professor Simon Bronitt

ARC Centre for Excellence in Policing and Security (CEPS), Griffith University

Abstract: In this seminar, Simon will explore the role and significance of the right to human dignity drawing examples from both civil law and common law systems. In this exploration of how legal discourses define, protect and ultimately qualify 'human dignity', the paper ranges across the infamous 19th century leading case of *Dudley and Stephens* dealing with survival cannibalism, to post-9/11 statutes authorising the shooting down hijacked aircraft in Australia and Germany, as well as judicial rulings which have sought to limit the degradation of suspects in high profile terrorist trials such as *R v Benbrika & Ors (Ruling No 20) [2008] VSC 80* (20 March 2008).

Simon Bronitt is Director of CEPS. Simon was previously a Professor of Law in the ANU College of Law. Between 2006-2009 he served as the Director of the National Europe Centre, Research School of Humanities, ANU. Drawing on comparative and interdisciplinary perspectives, Simon has published widely on criminal justice issues, including counter terrorism law and human rights, covert policing, telecommunications interception and international criminal law. His publications include *Principles of Criminal Law* (2nd ed, Law Book Co, 2005) with B McSherry and *Law in Context* (3rd ed, Federation Press, 2006) with S. Bottomley.