

# LEGAL ISSUES AND TEACHERS

The area of teachers and the law is an increasingly complex one for all members in DET and CIT. The fundamental point is that members must seek advice at the outset. Such advice is firstly available from the Department's or CIT's legal section or from the AEU Office.

One of the main protections for teachers and Schools Services Officers is the concept of vicarious liability. Members following the policies and procedures as set out by their employer will be generally speaking, legally protected by the employer. Therefore, it is important that members are familiar with these policies and procedures that cover a range of issues, eg Code of Professional Practice, first aid, excursions, student management etc. Members should also consult Membership Services and OH&S for further guidance in this area.

In recognition of the increasing need for members to have access to a quality legal service, our Union has a comprehensive legal package with Pamela Coward Higgins. The details of the package are provided under **Membership Services**.

If any members have any questions about their legal liability on a work matter you should contact the AEU Office on [02] 6272-7900.