



NEW SOUTH WALES  
BAR ASSOCIATION

# Male, Female or Non-Specific: NSW Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages v Norrie

Presented by:

David Bennett AC QC

Joanna Davidson

Norrie

Chair:

Kate Eastman SC

NSW Bar Association

Common Room

5.15pm Tuesday 18th November

This seminar has been organised by the  
New South Wales Bar Association's  
Human Rights Committee.

1.5 HOUR SEMINAR

1.5 CPD POINTS IN THE  
SUBSTANTIVE LAW STRAND

On 2 April 2014, the High Court unanimously held that the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1995* (NSW) recognises that a person may be neither male nor female, and so permits the registration of a person's sex as "non specific".

Norrie, the respondent to the High Court appeal, who is a celebrated Sydney iconoclast, together with other gender diverse activists, lobbied for the passage of the Act. Norrie will discuss why the Act was necessary and the circumstances leading to the litigation.

David Bennett AC QC, who appeared for Norrie, will discuss the approach to statutory construction taken by the Court and the possible impact of the decision on any future consideration of analogous legislation.

Joanna Davidson, Barrister, will discuss how the *Norrie* case sits within a growing trend towards legal recognition of differences of sex and gender.

THIS SEMINAR IS OPEN TO MEMBERS OF THE NSW  
BAR ASSOCIATION

REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED

For more information, please contact Bali Kaur  
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 Continuing Professional Development