



## Sir Ronald Wilson Lecture – Online Lecture + Live Webinar Q&A

# Kids in Jail: Raising the Age of Criminal Responsibility in Australia

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the 2020 Sir Ronald Wilson Lecture will be presented online with a live Webinar Q&A with the Presenter scheduled the following day.

### Lecture Descriptor:

Prison should not be a rite of passage for any child. Yet, in Australia, children as young as 10 can be imprisoned. This topic presents an overview of what has become a national tragedy in this country and why all levels of government – state, territory and federal – have been called upon to increase the minimum age of criminal responsibility (MACR) to 14, bringing Australia into line with international human rights standards.

**Presenter: Ms Pauline Wright**  
*Law Council of Australia, President*

She was the President of the NSW Council for Civil Liberties from 2018 to 2019, having been Vice President since 1998, and has been active particularly in the areas of criminal justice, anti-terrorism and asylum-seeker policy.



Ms Wright was President of the Law Society of NSW in 2017, having served on the Council of the Law Society of NSW since 1997. She sits on a number of committees and working groups of the Law Council of Australia, including the Access to Justice Committee, Equal Opportunity Committee and the National Criminal Law Liaison Committee.

She is also a keen ocean swimmer, surf lifesaver, singer, actor, theatre producer, director and writer.

### Year 11-12 Politics and Law ATAR Courses Syllabus Items of Relevance:

- **Unit 3:** Political and legal power at least one contemporary issue (the last three years) relating
  - » to political power and;
  - » at least one contemporary issue (the last three years) relating to legal power
- **Unit 4:** Accountability and rights The political and legal issues are best addressed in combination with the relevant content of the Australian political and legal system. This requires an examination of:
  - » the changing experience of a particular group with respect to their political and legal rights in Australia.

### INFORMATION:

#### Online Lecture:

Posted online on Tuesday, 18 August 2020

#### Live Webinar Q&A:

Wednesday, 19 August 2020

#### Cost:

FREE

#### Registrations:

Essential to receive online Lecture and Webinar Q&A access permissions, register online at [lawsocietywa.asn.au/swl-registration/](https://lawsocietywa.asn.au/swl-registration/)

#### Registrations Close:

4.30pm (AWST) Friday, 14 August 2020

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