



# Leave those Blue-Eyed Babies Alone: Rhetorical Limitations on Parliamentary Sovereignty

You are invited to attend the Australian Academy of Law's Eleventh Annual Patron's Address

**WHEN:** THURSDAY 20 OCTOBER 2022 |  
4.30 PM (QLD – AEST)  
5.30 PM – (NSW, VICTORIA, TASMANIA, ACT – AEDT)  
5.00 PM (SA – ACDT)  
4.00 PM NT – ACST)  
2.30 PM (WA – AWST)

**VENUE:** CONFERENCE CENTRE, QUEEN ELIZABETH II COURTS OF LAW,  
LEVEL 12, 415 GEORGE STREET, BRISBANE AND ONLINE  
(link to be sent prior to the event)

**The Topic:** *“Since early in the life of the Federation, the High Court has deprecated the deployment of extreme and distorting examples of bad laws that Parliament might make as an argument for taking a narrow view of legislative power. Nevertheless, the rhetoric of the extreme example exhibits a continuing appeal. The appeal of this rhetorical strategy echoes elements of a long-standing anti-democratic tradition within the common law.”*

The Hon Patrick Keane is a graduate of the University of Queensland and Oxford University, where he was awarded the Vinerian Scholarship. He was admitted to the Queensland Bar in 1977 and in 1988 he was appointed Queens's Counsel. He was Solicitor-General for Queensland from 1992 to 2005. He served as a judge of the Court of Appeal of the Supreme Court of Queensland from 2005-2010. In 2010, he was appointed Chief Justice of the Federal Court of Australia. He was appointed a Justice of the High Court of Australia in 2013 and retired from that Court in October 2022. Patrick Keane was appointed a Companion in the General Division of the Order of Australia in 2015 for eminent service to the law and the judiciary. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law.

The Australian Academy of Law is most grateful to the Hon Patrick Keane AC for agreeing to deliver our eleventh Patron's Address.

The Chair for the event will be the Hon Justice Anthony Besanko, a judge of the Federal Court of Australia and Deputy President of the Australian Academy of Law.

**THE HONOURABLE PATRICK KEANE AC**



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