



The Law
Society
OF TASMANIA

5 April 2006

Society Criticizes Mercury Article

Quotations attributed to Law Society President, Leanne Topfer as reported in *The Mercury* on April 4, 2006 are wrong.

To suggest that she said “that the Wilderness Society report identified fundamental threats to democracy,” or that “the Law Society supported the push for reform,” was not the case.

In her comments to a journalist seeking a response to a report by Dr Ogle entitled ‘Gunning For Change’, Ms Topfer made it clear that she would not make any comment about the Gunns action specifically.

The Society does not comment on the merits of cases before the courts.

Ms Topfer stated to the journalist that the matter had not been discussed by the Council of the Law Society. Therefore she was expressing her personal opinion. She was not expressing a view that the Law Society is ‘supporting a push to shield corporate protesters from law suits’ as reported in *The Mercury*.

The Council of the Law Society of Tasmania has not considered the Ogle Report and has not authorised any comments to be made about the Report on its behalf.

ENDS

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