
AMICUS CURIAE SPECIAL ISSUE—CALL FOR PROPOSALS

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On behalf of the editors of *Amicus Curiae*, the open access journal of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, School of Advanced Studies, London University, proposals are sought by authors for papers of up to 5000 words (in the range 3000-5000 words inclusive of references) for a planned Special Issue to be edited by Dr Victoria McCloud (Master McCloud, United Kingdom (UK) High Court and a Senior Associate Research Fellow at IALS, also Advisory Head of Interdisciplinary Collaboration, Euro-Expert, Sorbonne, Paris), Professor Michael Palmer (Professor, SOAS and IALS) and the Editorial Board of *Amicus Curiae*, on the subjects of abusive or obsessive litigation, its psychology, its impacts on justice systems, on justice and on judges.

The planned output will be the publication of a Special Issue (*Amicus Curiae* Series 2, Number 5.4) planned for 2024 and, depending on responses, may include a symposium event or publication in book form for which authors' consent would be sought beforehand.

The editors invite proposals from judges, professionals and academics in the law, in related psychology and justice fields, as well as from socio-legal scholars, on the above topics and welcome both domestic UK discussion and also international and comparative approaches.

The topics are intended to be widely drawn so that “abusive” can include offensive or threatening litigation as well as more technically abusive litigation such as claims which are intended to be used for purposes other than obtaining the resolution of the apparent dispute (such as economic oppression or political aims). The scope is, however, also intended to include alternative views of the concept of “abusive” litigation, including from a critical stance considering whether the concept itself operates as an unfair restraint on access to courts or hearings, or has a chilling effect on freedom to defend rights. The editors are also interested in any papers considering the rise of “common law” arguments and tactics deployed in court by movements such as “the sovereign citizens”. The

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editors will also welcome psycho-legal proposals in relation to the mental health and psychological issues in play when litigants become obsessive in pursuing claims in court, and on the use of collateral litigation in a family relationship as a means of exerting coercive control after divorces or family separation.

We also invite you to share this call with colleagues who might be interested in the initiative.

*Any inquiries should be sent to **Victoria McCloud**.*

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