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David K L Raphael

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INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION AND THE LANGUAGE OF THE LAW

Roland Sussex MA (Canterbury), PhD (London)

Australia has had significant experience of language and culture issues in the courtroom and some of these have been studied in depth by scholars like Eades and Walsh on language in Australian legal practice, and by Gibbons on the language of the law. This article brings this research into the framework of the rapidly growing discipline of intercultural communication, with its wider perspective of intercultural differences. It surveys how these cultural factors interact with linguistic communication, and how both can affect the work of legal professionals, and considers the different possible roles of judges in multicultural courtrooms.

WHEN ARE DAMAGES AN ADEQUATE REMEDY?

Lee Aitken

Equity has traditionally regarded the availability of damages for breach of a contract as an inhibition on its willingness to grant specific performance of a contractual obligation. Most of the cases concern interlocutory applications with all the vice inherent in such a process for precedential purposes. Recent authority suggests that the former rigidity may be breaking down and that compelling performance may mean a more just and satisfying result for the plaintiff.

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