Mental health laws and their effect on practice

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Mental health laws that enable the detention and treatment of those with severe mental health problems without their consent have long existed in most developed countries. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has instigated debates concerning the scope of these laws and whether or not they should even exist. This presentation examines recent reforms to mental health laws across Australia and what impact these changes are having on practice.

Professor Bernadette McSherry, BA(Hons), LLB(Hons), LLM (Melb), PhD (York, Canada), Grad Dip Psych (Monash), researches and writes in the fields of mental health law and criminal law. In 2011, she was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law. She is a Legal Member of the Mental Health Tribunal of Victoria and in 2007 was awarded an Australian Research Council Federation Fellowship to work on a project entitled Rethinking Mental Health Laws. She is currently a member of a Victorian government-appointed panel reviewing post-sentence supervision schemes for sex offenders.

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12.30 - 1.30 pm, Seminar Room 515
Melbourne School of Population and Global Health
Level 5, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

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