

## VCE LEGAL STUDIES

UNIT 4: THE PEOPLE AND THE LAW – AREA OF STUDY 2, OUTCOME 2

# THE PEOPLE, THE PARLIAMENT AND THE COURTS

## LESSON PLAN

### → Teacher Guide

Level	Learning Area	Strands	Topic
VCE	Unit 4 Legal Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>AOS 2: The People, the parliament and the courts</li><li>- Outcome 2: Law reform</li></ul>	Parliamentary committees

### Overview

In undertaking the important role of making new law and updating old laws, the Parliament of Victoria needs expert advice. One significant source of advice and guidance comes from parliamentary committees.

Using parliamentary committees, the aim of this lesson plan is to give teachers a range of ideas and activities to engage their students in:

- Understanding the role and functions parliamentary committees can play in influencing law reform
- Considering one recent example of a recommendation for law reform from a parliamentary committee
- Being more involved with the Parliament of Victoria to promote active and informed citizenship.

### Curriculum Links

#### VCE Legal Studies

Unit 4: The People and the law

#### Outcome 2

#### Key knowledge

Law reform

- The role of one parliamentary committee and its ability to influence law reform and one recent example of a recommendation for law reform

#### Key skills

- Evaluate the ability of law reform bodies to influence a change in the laws, using recent examples

## Learning Goals

By the end of these lessons, students will be able to:

- Understand and evaluate the role of one parliamentary committee and its ability to influence law reform
- Evaluate the ways parliamentary committees can influence a change in the law by considering one recent example of a recommendation for law reform.

## Resources and Materials

This resource contains all the materials and resources needed to complete the unit. The learning activities are explained in detail. In some cases, resources and information from the Parliament of Victoria's website are suggested and access is easy.

### Teacher advice

In order to cater for choice, the lesson plan is made up of modules. All students should complete modules 1 and 4; modules 2 and 3 include options for choice in the parliamentary committee inquiry, and recommendation for law reform, studied.

Module 1	General introduction to parliamentary committees
Module 2	Law Reform, Road and Community Safety Committee's <i>Inquiry into lowering the probationary driving age in Victoria to seventeen</i>
Module 3	Legal and Social Issues Committee's <i>Inquiry into end of life choices</i>
Module 4	Evaluation of the role of a parliamentary committee in influencing law reform

### Assessment task - using module 4

There is some overlap in the review questions included in module 4. You may wish to review the set activities at the end and make a choice about the questions you want your students to complete. These questions could also form the basis of a structured question assessment task or be used as items in an assessment task undertaken in a test.

Included for this lesson plan are

- Teacher guide
- Four modules with student learning activities for each module

Additional reference material

- Inside the Parliament of Victoria booklet
- [www.parliament.vic.gov.au/committees](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/committees)

For assistance about this lesson plan and to request hard copies of resources contact:  
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