

Psychiatric/Psychological Issues in the Criminal Courts In Australia

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Abstract : Abstract—This paper addresses the use and admissibility of psychiatric/psychological evidence in Australia Courts. There have been different approaches in the Courts to the acceptance of such expert evidence. It details how such expert evidence is admissible at trial and sentence. The methodology used is an examination of the decided cases and relevant legislative provisions which relate to the admission of such evidence. The major findings are that the evidence can be admissible if it is relevant to issues in a trial or sentence. It concludes that psychiatric/psychological evidence can be very useful and indeed may be essential at sentence or trial.

Keywords : criminal, law, psychological, evidence

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