

page  
provan

**family and  
fertility lawyers**

# Our passion: helping you on your journey to parenthood

We have the honour and privilege of helping our clients achieve their dream of becoming parents.

## How we can help

To become a parent, you may need an egg donor, a sperm donor or a surrogate, or maybe all three. The very complex law in this area is not handled by most family lawyers. There is a lot of inaccurate information on the internet. If not done correctly, you may not have a child. You may not be recognised as a parent. You may fight it out in the Family Court. You may end up committing several criminal offences. We work with our clients and with experts here and overseas to ensure that our clients can become parents as quickly, cheaply and hassle free as possible. This includes looking at alternative solutions to solve the problem or problems – solutions often not thought of by our clients or by others.

# Our team

Our team is led by Director Stephen Page.

Stephen has been named by the media as one of Australia's leading surrogacy lawyers. Stephen is one of three international representatives on the ART committee of the American Bar Association, a co-chair of the Sexuality and Gender Identity, and member of the Forced Marriage and Parentage and LGBT Committees of the International Academy of Family Lawyers, a member of the ART Resources and International Committees of the Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys, a director of the Fertility Society of Australia and New Zealand Ltd as well as being a member of various family law associations. Stephen has presented extensively at local, national and international conferences (and written widely) about surrogacy and fertility law. His first surrogacy case was in 1988. Career highlights include presenting at the world's first international surrogacy conference in Las Vegas in 2011, and obtaining a *world first precedent* in 2012 as to what constituted "conception". He was the convenor of Queenslanders for Equality which successfully lobbied to stop the Queensland government enacting discriminatory changes to Queensland's surrogacy laws.



# Stephen Page

## Curriculum Vitae

**Stephen is the author of *When Not If: Surrogacy for Australians* (2022) and *International Assisted Reproductive Technology* (2024). Stephen graduated with Bachelor of Laws (Honours) in 1985 from the then Queensland Institute of Technology (now QUT) .**

In 1987 Stephen was admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Queensland. In 1989 Stephen was admitted as a solicitor of the High Court of Australia. In 2013 Stephen was admitted as a Barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of South Australia.

Stephen is a legal practitioner director of Page Provan, family and fertility lawyers, Brisbane.

Stephen was the 2023 Queensland Law Society President's Medal recipient.

In 1988, Stephen made a decision to specialize in family law. Since that time, his practice has consisted solely or predominantly of family law, and increasingly over time the sub-specialty of fertility law. Stephen has represented clients in fertility matters from throughout Australia and over 30 countries overseas.

In 1996, the Queensland Law Society introduced a scheme of Queensland Law Society Accredited Family Law Specialists. Stephen became accredited in 1996. He has remained accredited ever since. In 2021 Stephen was recognised by the Queensland Law Society for being an Accredited Family Law Specialist for 25 years. Between 2017 and 2022, Stephen lectured at the University of New South Wales in *Ethics and the Law in Reproductive Medicine*.

Stephen has practised in all areas of family law. Stephen has three sub-specialties in family law:

- surrogacy/assisted reproductive technology
- domestic violence
- acting for LGBTI people

- ✓ Chaired the South Brisbane Immigration Community Legal Centre (now RAILS)
- ✓ Chaired the management committee of a domestic violence refuge for some years
- ✓ Co-founded a domestic violence service (WAVSS)
- ✓ Been the chairperson or secretary of the Mt Gravatt committee of Relationships Australia Queensland from 1996 to 2003
- ✓ Been a board member of Relationships Australia Queensland 2000-2003
- ✓ Been a committee member of a court based domestic violence service (Beenleigh DVAP) 1999-2013
- ✓ Been a member of the City Fertility Centre, National Surrogacy and Donor Committee from 2015 to 2020
- ✓ Been the Honorary Solicitor for the Gay and Lesbian Welfare Association and the Brisbane Gay and Lesbian Business Network.
- ✓ Acted as the pro bono solicitor for the Queensland AIDS Council (2017)
- ✓ Spoken at the launch of Diversity in Gender and Sexuality in 2014.
- ✓ Lobbied the Queensland Government in 2011, 2012, 2015, 2017 to legislate to remove gay panic defence and to add hate crime legislation
- ✓ Attended at Queensland Government roundtables about domestic violence in LGBTI relationships (2015); and LGBTI issues (2016)
- ✓ Lobbied the NSW and Victorian Attorneys-General in 2013 to alter practices to allow Victorian birth records to be altered for children the subject of NSW parentage orders.
- ✓ Queensland Law Society, including as a member of the Equity and Diversity Committee (2017-2022)
- ✓ Chair, Greater Brisbane Family Law Pathways Network (2018-2022)
- ✓ Independent Children's Lawyer (2007-2023)

Presented papers and spoken at numerous conferences and presentations including:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Conference</b>	<b>Subject</b>
<b>1999</b>	Gold Coast	State Conference on Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence
<b>2001</b>	Gold Coast	National Conference on Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence
	Brisbane	State Men's Conference	Family Law
<b>2002</b>	Townsville	Far North Queensland and North Queensland Law Association	Domestic Violence
	Brisbane	Financial Counsellors Conference	Property Settlement
<b>2003</b>	Gold Coast	International Conference on Domestic and Sexual Abuse	Family Court and Sexual Abuse
	Brisbane	Queensland Magistrates Conference	Domestic Violence
	Brisbane	Family Law Practitioners Association	Domestic Violence
	Gold Coast	Gold Coast Practitioners	Domestic Violence
	Brisbane	Queensland Law Society	Domestic Violence
<b>2004</b>	Brisbane	Family Law Masterclass	Property Settlement
<b>2005</b>	Brisbane	Queensland Law Society	Domestic Violence
<b>2006</b>	Brisbane	Queensland Law Society	Domestic Violence
<b>2007</b>	Denver	National Conference on Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence and Immigration
	Brisbane	Australia's CEO Challenge	Domestic Violence
	Brisbane	5th National Health in Difference Conference	Gay Marriage; Same Sex Domestic Violence; LGBTI Property and Estate Issues
	Brisbane	National PFLAG Conference	LGBTI family law issues
	Brisbane	Australia's CEO Challenge	Family Court and Child Abuse
<b>2008</b>	Brisbane	LexisNexis	Property Settlement
	Brisbane	Multicultural Family Law Workers' Forum	Family Law, especially how it impacts on NESB people

<b>2009</b>	Brisbane	Australia's CEO Challenge	Property Settlement
<b>2010</b>	Brisbane	Australia's CEO Challenge	Domestic Violence; Same Sex Domestic Violence
	Brisbane	LexisNexis	Chaired, Family Law
	Caboolture	Family support network	Training about file notes
	Brisbane	Multicultural Family Law Workers Forum, Multicultural Development Association	Family law/domestic violence
	Brisbane	Legalwise	Chair, Family Law Session
	Sydney	Surrogacy Forum	Surrogacy
<b>2011</b>	Sydney	Surrogacy Forum	Surrogacy
	Gold Coast	City Fertility Centre national training	Surrogacy
	Gold Coast	Fertility Nurses of Australasia conference	Surrogacy
	Brisbane	LexisNexis	Surrogacy
	Brisbane	Legalwise	Surrogacy
	Brisbane	Life Fertility	Surrogacy
	Gold Coast	Qld Law Society/Family Law Practitioners Association Family Law Residential	Surrogacy
	Sydney	Westmead Foundation Fertility Symposium	Surrogacy
	Las Vegas	American Bar Association Family Law Section ART conference	Surrogacy
	Melbourne	World Congress on Reproductive Medicine	Surrogacy
<b>2012</b>	Brisbane	Legalwise	Domestic Violence
	Brisbane	City Fertility Centre	Surrogacy
	Brisbane	Australia's CEO Challenge	Domestic Violence
	Brisbane	Australia's CEO Challenge	Family Law Act Amendments
	Brisbane	Queensland Family Law Pathways Network	Domestic Violence
	Melbourne	Surrogacy Australia conference	Surrogacy
	Brisbane	LexisNexis	Surrogacy



	Brisbane	Family Law Practitioners Association	Domestic Violence
	Boston	International Commission on Couple and Family Relations	Family Law Collaboration Between the Professions
	Glendale, AZ	Arizona State University	Guest lecturer to law students about domestic violence
	Brisbane	Caxton Legal Centre	Domestic Violence
	Brisbane	Life Fertility Clinic	Surrogacy
	Sydney	NSW ANZICA meeting	Surrogacy
	Brisbane	Queensland Domestic Violence Conference	Domestic Violence and Immigration
	Port Stephens	Hunter Valley Family Law Conference	Surrogacy
	Kingaroy	South Burnett Child Protection network	Domestic Violence
	Sydney	Presentation to NSW MP's	Surrogacy
	Sydney	Surrogacy Forum	Surrogacy
<b>2013</b>	Brisbane	Legalwise	Surrogacy
	Melbourne	Australian Psychological Society Family Law and Psychology Interest Group	LGBTI Family Law
	Melbourne	Surrogacy Forum	Surrogacy
	Melbourne	Surrogacy Australia	Moderating legal panel
	Sydney	Surrogacy Forum	Surrogacy
	Brisbane	Surrogacy Forum	Surrogacy
	Anchorage	American Bar Association Family Law Section Spring Training	Surrogacy
	Townsville	North Qld Law Association	Domestic Violence
	Brisbane	Presentation to Save the Children Fund	Keeping file notes
	San Francisco	LGBT Family Law Institute	Credentialed attendee
	Brisbane	Life Fertility Clinic	Surrogacy/ART issues
	Sydney	Fertility Society of Australia	Ethical and moral dilemmas of surrogacy



	Brisbane	Australian Association of Social Workers Professional Practice Group meeting	Keeping file notes
	Charleston, South Carolina	American Academy of Assisted Reproduction Technology Attorneys	The dirty dozen rules in international ART
<b>2014</b>	Brisbane	Queensland Counsellors Association	Keeping file notes
	Brisbane	Television Education	Presentation on behalf of Adam Cooper as to add-backs in property settlement
	Brisbane	Merck Sorono satellite conference to Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction Congress (ASPIRE) conference	US surrogacy law and practice
	Brisbane	So you want to make a baby forum, in conjunction with the LGBTI Legal Service	Surrogacy, egg and sperm donation
	Melbourne	Surrogacy Australia conference	Hague, NSW, WA and NHMRC surrogacy reviews; panelist as to State surrogacy laws
	Mooloolaba	Fertility Nurses of Australasia conference	Ownership of eggs, sperm and embryos after donation
	Brisbane	LGBTIQ families planning day	Egg and sperm donation, family formation, surrogacy
	Brisbane	Qld Program to Assist Survivors of Torture and Trauma	Keeping file notes
	Melbourne	Association of Family and Conciliation Courts inaugural Australian chapter conference	LGBTIQ people and the Family Law Courts
	Brisbane	Scientists in Reproductive Technology conference	Import and export of gametes and embryos
	Brisbane	College of Law	Lecture to graduate students about surrogacy
	Brisbane	College of Law	Lecture to graduate students about family formation
	Brisbane	Legalwise	Chair of Managing Financial Issues after Family Breakdown

	Queensland webinar	University of Southern Queensland, School of Psychology, Counselling and Community	Keeping file notes-avoiding the Rottweiler's bite
	Stowe, Vermont	Presentation to American Bar Association Family Law Section council	Concerning co-authored paper concerning proposed Hague Convention on private international law concerning children
	Brisbane	Domestic and Family Violence Summit	Attendee/participant at invitation of Dame Quentin Bryce
	Adelaide	Law Society of South Australia	Presentation about surrogacy in South Australia
	Brisbane	Community seminar on ethical surrogacy	
	Melbourne	Community seminar on ethical surrogacy	
	Sydney	Community seminar on ethical surrogacy	
<b>2015</b>	Canberra	Canberra Fertility Centre	Facilitated discussion concerning surrogacy and fertility issues
	Brisbane	Donor seminar	Presentation about implications of egg, sperm and embryo donation
	Brisbane	Legalwise	Children across borders
	Sydney	NSW ANZICA meeting	Surrogacy/fertility update
	Sydney	Canadian surrogacy seminar	
	Queensland	QAILS webinar	Surrogacy
	Brisbane	College of Law	Guest lecturer-surrogacy and fertility
	Brisbane	Australian Association of Women Judges-inaugural lecture: Whose rights are they anyway?-with Chief Justice Bryant	Panellist-surrogacy
	Carlsbad, California	American Bar Association family law section/ART stream	Ownership of eggs, sperm and gametes
	London	LGBT Family Law Institute	Session moderator

	London	International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers surrogacy symposium	Surrogacy law in Australia
	Gold Coast	Television Education Network 9th Annual family Law Conference	Who is a parent
	Dunsborough, Western Australia	Family Law Practitioners Association of Western Australia	Surrogacy panel discussion with Chief Justice Bryant and Justice Crisford
	Canberra	Fertility Society of Australia	Post-Baby Gammy Surrogacy Regulation
	Queensland	Queensland Family Law Pathways Network	Webinar on ART and Family Law
	San Francisco	Bar Association of San Francisco surrogacy seminar	International surrogacy
	Chicago	American Academy of Assisted Reproductive Technology Attorneys (AAARTA) conference	Australian surrogacy update
	Brisbane	Families Through Surrogacy seminar	Queensland and Australian surrogacy
	Brisbane	Australian Community Workers Association	The courage to effect change
<b>2016</b>	Online	Television Education Network audio interview	Who's a parent
	Melbourne	Television Education Network	Who's a parent; chaired afternoon session
	Brisbane	Legalwise family law conference	Dirty dozen rules of international family law
	Brisbane	LGBT Family Law Institute	Host-and moderator for sessions on surrogacy, and what's next
	Cape Town	University of Western Cape law school	Guest lecture as to surrogacy
	Cape Town	Miller du Toit Cloete Inc and University of Western Cape 19th family law conference	Keynote speaker as to surrogacy
	Sydney	Marbury Chambers (my paper was delivered in my absence by Natalie Moffatt)	Qld and NSW surrogacy
	Online	Circle Surrogacy webinar	Surrogacy/egg donation
	Denver	American Academy of Assisted Reproductive Technology Attorneys annual meeting	Moderating panel of international surrogacy lawyers
	Nassau, Bahamas	American Bar Association Family Law Section/ART stream	Australian surrogacy overview

	Australia-webinar	Family Court of Australia	The ART of family law
	Brisbane	Out for Australia-legal panel	How the law relates to parenting and relationship recognition for LGBTI people
	Brisbane	US surrogacy seminar	
	Brisbane	Australian Surrogacy Conference	Moderated panel on role of lawyers, moderated panel discussion on role of surrogacy agencies
	Canada	Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society webinar	Australians behaving badly-Australian surrogacy
	Gold Coast	Television Education Network LGBTI family law seminar	Understanding the de facto relationships rules in the context of LGBTI relationships
	Melbourne	City Fertility Centre	Inhouse training on surrogacy and donor issues
	Brisbane	Launch of Rainbow Fertility	Speech/question and answer session on surrogacy and fertility issues for LGBTIQ people
	Brisbane	City Fertility Centre national conference	A six point guide to surrogacy
	Brisbane	Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Australian Chapter conference	Panellist on Family Violence in Interim Hearings in the Federal Circuit Court
	Melbourne	Television Education Network	TV taping of Who is a parent
	Brisbane	Legalwise family law seminar	Makin' and breakin': LGBTIQ people and family law
	Brisbane	College of Law	Workshop on advanced family law
	Brisbane	LGBTI Legal Service	Presentation about families-civil partnerships, adoption, sperm donation, surrogacy
	Sydney	Rainbow Fertility	Speech/question and answer session on surrogacy and fertility issues for LGBTIQ people

	Lismore	Rainbow Fertility	Speech/question and answer session on surrogacy and fertility issues for LGBTIQ people
<b>2017</b>	Gold Coast	Rainbow Fertility	Speech/question and answer session on surrogacy and fertility issues for LGBTIQ people
	Brisbane	Legalwise Family Law Forum	Third party property matters
	Brisbane	Out for Australia mentoring discussion	Panellist on how to mentor
	Sydney	Television Education network live webinar	De facto relationships in the context of LGBTI relationships
	Brisbane	LGBTIQ parents to be information night	Panellist
	Australia	Circle Surrogacy: Surrogacy in the US-for Aussies-webinar	Presenter
	Hong Kong	Hong Kong University, Department of Social Work and Social Administration	Guest lecture on international ART, surrogacy and egg donation
	Hong Kong	Inaugural Asia-Pacific Rainbow Families Forum	Three presentations about international surrogacy, egg donation, ART issues
	Brisbane	Queensland Law Society seminar	Learning from the leaders-pursuing diversity in the legal profession-panellist
	Melbourne	Television Education Network-1st LGBTI Legal and Regulatory Conference	Access to IVF, ART and stored genetic materials
	International	American Bar Association: Commonwealth babies: international ART update	Webinar as to aspects of Australian surrogacy law especially as to Re Halvard and Re Grosvenor
	Brisbane	Queensland Law Society Essentials Conference	How to build a courageous career
	Gold Coast	Queensland Law Society/Family Law Practitioners Association Family Law Residential	Who's ya Daddy?-parentage presumptions
	Australia	Canadian Fertility Consulting webinar	Surrogacy in Canada for Aussies-when, not if you're parents

	Brisbane	University of Queensland Pride Alliance-function as to domestic violence	Keynote speaker/ panellist
	Australian webinar	San Diego Fertility Center-US surrogacy for Australian intended parents	Speaker
	Sydney	LGBT Family Law Institute Australia	Director and moderator
	Sydney	International Bar Association conference	Presenter on surrogacy
	Brisbane	Pride in Law launch, Banco Court	Speech at launch
	Australia	US surrogacy for Australians webinar	Presenter
	Phnom Penh	Asia-Pacific Rainbow Families Forum	Presenter
<b>2018</b>	Melbourne	The Equality Project, Better Together conference	Presenter:The ten barriers to becoming parents through surrogacy; panellist: Queer Families; panellist: Queer Families and the Law
	Brisbane	Iris Education	Presenter: Transgender legal issues
	Queensland webinar	Queensland Law Society	Presenter: The impact of the Marriage Act amendments in family law issues
	Sydney, webinar	Television Education Network	Presenter: Defining best interests of children in family law parenting matters
	Cape Town	Miller du Toit Cloete Inc and University of Western Cape 21st family law conference	Presenter: Australian and world developments in ART law
	Brisbane	Queensland Law Society Symposium	Chairing of two family law sessions
	Brisbane	Legalwise	Presenter: Lifting the corporate veil in family law: Revisiting Salome
	Brisbane	Queensland Law Society Careers Expo	Panellist: "Oh the places you'll go!" as to career issues

	Nashville	American Bar Association ART Conference	Presenter, co-author *ART* The Long Road Home: Overcoming Legal, Cultural, and Practical Challenges to International Surrogacy in the Pacific Region
	Sydney	College of Law conference	Presenter: Who's ya Daddy?
	Brisbane	Legal Aid Queensland training	Presenter: Marriage Act amendments and recent fertility law cases
	Gold Coast	Fertility Nurses of Australasia conference	My dance card is full-surrogacy
	Brisbane	Queensland Law Society	Family law 101-parenting
	Adelaide	Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Australian Conference –Pre-Conference Institute	Presenter: Workshop leader with Dr Philip Stahl –Domestic Violence and Alienation
	Queensland	Queensland Law Society Live Cast	Re Cresswell –death and reproductive technology–panellist
	Brisbane	Pride in Law	Pride and Prejudice–making the legal profession truly inclusive–panellist
	Sydney	Monash IVF	Training as to surrogacy and fertility law issues
	Brisbane	LGBT Family Law Institute Australia meeting	Chaired all sessions, co-moderated session on family formation including surrogacy
	Brisbane	Greater Brisbane Family Law Pathways seminar	Who is a parent?
	Adelaide	City Fertility Centre	Update on surrogacy and assisted reproductive treatment law
	Brisbane	Australian Human Resources Institute, Diversity and Inclusion Section	How workplaces can tackle domestic violence
<b>2019</b>	Sydney	Better Together conference	Surrogacy 101
	USA	American Bar Association webinar	Where there's a will, there's a way: minimising the risk of international surrogacy arrangements



	Melbourne	LGBT Family Law Institute Australia meeting	Chair of the meeting, co-facilitator on session on surrogacy/family formation
	Sydney	Independent Parents Advisory Network	Presentation about surrogacy options for intended parents
	Melbourne	Surrogacy presentation	Presentation about legal issues for intended parents
	Sydney	Surrogacy presentation	Presentation about legal issues for intended parents
	Brisbane	Surrogacy presentation	Presentation about legal issues for intended parents
	Brisbane	Qld Law Society Symposium	Facilitator, Achieving respectful and inclusive workplaces
	Gold Coast	Scientists in Reproductive Technology conference	Presentation about surrogacy and post-humous use of gametes; panellist as to future ethical and legal trends
	Brisbane	Queensland Law Society, Family Law Fundamentals	Presentation about parenting matters
	Gold Coast	Simonidis Steel 2019 CPD conference	Presentation about surrogacy
	San Francisco	International Academy of Family Lawyers, Introduction to International Family Law	Presenter-International parenting agreements
	San Francisco	International Academy of Family Lawyers, USA and Canadian Chapters meeting	Panellist about assisted reproductive treatment law
	San Francisco	National Family Law Advisory Committee, National Center for Lesbian Rights	Facilitated discussion about surrogacy issues
	Brisbane	Rainbow Families Queensland-Making Rainbow Babies	Surrogacy, egg and sperm donation issues for LGBTIQ intended parents and donors
	Sydney	Legalwise seminar, LGBTI people and the law	Who's ya daddy-parentage presumptions
	Brisbane	Life Fertility	Presentation with Karen Gough about surrogacy and donor issues

	Brisbane	Greater Brisbane Family Law Pathways Network	Panellist in a seminar on warrants and subpoenas for counsellors and family lawyers
	Brisbane	Pride Brisbane Network	Presentation about donor and surrogacy issues
	Brisbane	Queensland Fertility Group egg and sperm donor seminar	Presentation about legal issues with egg, sperm and embryo donation
	Sydney	Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Australian Chapter 6th conference	Presentation-Ethical issues in surrogacy: contradiction or conundrum
	Sydney	LGBT Family Law Institute 5th meeting	Chaired the meeting, co-facilitator of session on surrogacy and family formation
	Hobart	Fertility Society of Australia conference	Presentation-Surrogacy snapshot
	Seoul	International Bar Association conference	Panel member: From East to West: developments and issues in the advancement and protection of the rights of transgender and non-binary people
	Melbourne	Guest lecture to Monash University post-graduate embryology students	Ethics and law in embryology in context
	Brisbane	Presentation to Monash IVF Group Queensland doctors, nurses and technicians	Current donor and surrogacy issues
	Brisbane	Workshop for Encircle counsellors	Avoiding the rottweiler's bite: keeping good file notes
	Brisbane	Growing Families seminar	Current surrogacy and donor issues
	Brisbane	Queensland Fertility Group	Time for a cold shower after Masson v Parsons
	Brisbane	Greater Brisbane Family Law Pathways Network -moderator	The future of family law - after the ALRC report
	Brisbane	Legalwise	Legal issues related to supporting students who are transgender and gender diverse or who have transgender and gender diverse parents

	Brisbane	IPAN	Current surrogacy issues
	Sydney	Legalwise	Who is a parent? What are the implications of Masson v Parsons?
<b>2020</b>	Cape Town	University of the Western Cape/ Miller du Toit Cloete family law conference	Surrogacy issues
	Monash University	Guest lecturer to embryology students	Surrogacy and ethics issues
	Queensland	Webinar for Fertility Solutions	Egg, sperm and embryo donor issues
	Webinar	Canadian Fertility Consulting	Surrogacy issues for Australians going to Canada, being impacted by Covid-19
	Australian webinar	Television Education Network	First return dates in family law
	Queensland webinar	Queensland Law Society	Family law fundamentals- parenting matters
	Melbourne- via webinar	City Fertility Centre	Victorian ART and surrogacy issues
	Australian webinar	Legalwise	Interim parenting hearings
	Australian webinar	Fertility Society of Australia	Simplifying and summarising surrogacy: how to keep your patients safe and your clinical practice legal and ethical
	Australian webinar	Corrs Chambers Westgarth	Demystifying surrogacy in Australia
<b>2020</b>	Australian webinar	National Mental Health Resilience Summit	Panellist in four sessions
<b>2021</b>	International webinar	International Academy of Family Lawyers	Panellist: When children and adults transition: challenges for the families and the law
	Australian webinar	Television Education Network	First return dates in family law
	Webinar	Greater Brisbane Family Law Pathways Network	Clayton v Bant (host)
	Brisbane	Legalwise Advanced Family Law	Presented paper on behalf of Guy Waterman about recent property settlement cases, including addbacks

	Webinar	Page Provan/San Diego Fertility Center	Surrogacy in the US for Australian intended parents
	Webinar	Australian Jewish Fertility Network	Egg, sperm, embryo donation and surrogacy
	Webinar	Page Provan	Surrogacy in Canada for Australian intended parents
	Webinar	University of Southern Queensland Law Association	Presentation about my career
	Webinar	Miller du Toit Cloete Inc/University of Western Cape virtual family law conference	Sperm donation
	Podcast	Amber Daines	The Politics of Family Law
	Zoom Meeting	LGBT Family Law Institute in Australia	Chair and moderate session on family formation
	Webinar	Page Provan	Surrogacy in Queensland
	Webinar	Page Provan	Surrogacy in New South Wales
	Conference	Growing Families Domestic Surrogacy	
	Virtual meeting	All about Fertility Expo	Surrogacy/ART Issues
	Virtual Conference	International Federation of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (FIGO) World Congress and Chair Session	Posthumous Use
	Webinar	Page Provan obtaining Australian Citizenship through Surrogacy	
	Webinar	International Academy of Family Lawyers Asia Pacific Chapter/Law Asia	Surrogacy in Asia Pacific
	Seminar	Rainbow Families Queensland. Making Rainbow Babies	Surrogacy
	Monash University	Guest Lecturer	Surrogacy Legislation
<b>2022</b>	Podcast	Greater Brisbane Family Law Pathways Network - New Way Lawyers	Surrogacy
	Webinar	Television Education Network	First Return Dates in Family Law

	Zoom Meeting	Interviewed	'Inter-country adoption is in decline. Discuss. What is your point of view about this statement?'
	Television Education Network	Court Room Strategies in Family Law Online Conference	First Return Dates Maximising Returns from the Get Go
	Television Education Network	Drafting Binding Financial Agreements that Withstand the Test of Time	Drafting Binding Financial Agreements
	Legalwise	19th Annual Family Law Conference Brisbane	The Duty of Disclosure and Discovery Rules
	Legalwise	Family Law Financial Settlements: Key Issues Webinar	Can Embryos be Property?
	Law Faculty of the University of the Western Cape and Miller du Toit Cloete Incorporated	25th Annual Family Law Conference Cape Town	ART with a particular focus on surrogacy and the rights of the parties and the child
	Monash IVF	Monash IVF Qld Clinical Day	Legal Aspects of Donor and Surrogacy
	Growing Families	National Surrogacy & Egg Donation Conference	Legal Parentage after Domestic Arrangements
	Northern Territory Family Law Section		Surrogacy Act
	Monash University	Surrogacy Legislation	Ethics and Law in Embryology in context
	Gold Coast	Television Education Network national family law conference	Costs as the weapon of choice by the courts
	Sydney	Fertility Society of Australia and New Zealand conference	Embryos as property in family law
	Sydney	Fertility Society of Australia and New Zealand conference	Posthumous use of gametes and embryos
	Sydney	Fertility Society of Australia and New Zealand conference	Poster presentation: Throuples as parents
	Queensland	Queensland launch of book: Surrogacy Stories	Sam Everingham
		Presentation	Fertility Nurses Training Session Paper
	Brisbane	Fertility Nurses of Australasia	Donor and surrogacy issues

2023	Sydney	Sydney WorldPride human rights conference	Panellist in rainbow families session
	Cape Town	25th Miller Du Toit Cloete Inc/ University of Western Cape international family law conference	1. Presentation: 1980 Hague Convention issues in Australia 2. Presentation: sperm donation in Australia. 3. Chair: LGBTQIA+ family law session
	Brisbane	Adora Fertility national conference	Presentation: egg, sperm and embryo donation
	Las Vegas	American Bar Association: Family Law/Assisted Reproductive Treatment Conference/Surrogacy and Donor Issues of Australia;	Chair: International Surrogacy Panel
	Sydney	Specialist Sharing Expertise Education and Data (SEED) 2023 Surrogacy	
	Webinar	Television Education Network	Costs as the weapon of choice by the courts
	Gold Coast	Fertility Nurses Association of Australasia and National Conference Donor and Surrogacy	
		Copenhagen International Surrogacy Forum	Australian Surrogacy
	Webinar	MERCK Australia Pride Month	
	Melbourne	Growing Families: Australian Surrogacy Agreements	
	Melbourne	Growing Families: Establishment of Parentage for Children born overseas through Surrogacy	
	Remote lecture	Monash University, embryology course	Surrogacy and ART issues
	Webinar	International Academy of Family Lawyers, Asia-Pacific Chapter	Family law issues for transgender, non-binary and intersex people
	Sydney, remote	The Law Society of New South Wales specialist accreditation conference	Family law issues for transgender, non-binary and intersex people
	Webinar	The Education Network	Till Death Us Do Part: s.79(8) issues concerning death and property settlement
	Webinar	Corrs Pride Network: Inclusive Parenting	Panellist

	Webinar	The Law Society of South Australia	Unravelling the Maze of Surrogacy
	Manly, NSW	Australasian Sexual and Reproductive Health Conference 2023	Speaker: Access by members of the rainbow community to reproductive healthcare
	Webinar	Legalwise Family Law Seminar	Family Law Amendment Bill 2023 panellist Speaker: Who is a parent after Masson
	Brisbane	Zonta Club of Brisbane	Forced Marriage
	Audio Recording	The Education Network Til Death Do Us Part: section 79(8) Issues Concerning Death and Property Settlement	
<b>2024</b>	Webinar	International Bar Association	Surrogacy Rights and the Best Interests of the Child
	Brisbane	International Academy of Family Lawyers, Asia Pacific, Chapter Meeting	Ann Marie Hutchinson Memorial Lecture
	By Zoom/ remote	Cape Town 26th Miller du Toit Cloete/University of the Western Cape Family Law Conference	Posthumous Use and Retrieval
	Brisbane	Growing Families	Domestic surrogacy in Australia
	Webinar	Legalwise Seminars	Guy Waterman's presentation: Drafting for Interim Property and Maintenance Applications: Tips and Traps
	Gold Coast	City Fertility national conference	Surrogacy in Australia
	Webinar	Growing Families staff	Ethical and legal issues with overseas donor and surrogacy journeys
	Boston	American Bar Association family law section	Representing gay dads in surrogacy
	Webinar	Television Education Network	Til Death Do Us Part: When a Party Dies Prior to Final Orders in Family Law.
	Townsville	North Queensland Law Association conference	Ten things I have learnt about surrogacy since 1988
	Webinar	Queensland ANZICA members	<i>Assisted Reproductive Technology Bill 2024 (Qld)</i>



	Webinar	Page Provan	<i>Assisted Reproductive Technology Bill 2024 (Qld)</i>
	Gold Coast	The Education Network, 18th national family law conference	When coercive control meets family law: the responsibility of legal practitioners
	Webinar	Page Provan	<i>Assisted Reproductive Technology Act 2024 (ACT)</i>
	Brisbane	Pride in Law	Panellist for Wear it Purple Day about diversity and inclusion in the legal profession
	Webinar	International Academy of Family Lawyers, Asia Pacific Chapter	Panellist: Embryo Disputes
	Sydney	IVF Australia	Surrogacy
	Perth	20th National Family Law Conference	Donor Conceived and Deceived
	Brisbane	Queensland Fertility Group	Surrogacy
	Sydney	Virtus Health, Australian Doctors Meeting	The Future of Regulation and Trends in Third Party Reproduction
	Webinar	European Fertility Society	Mitochondrial Donation Regulation
	Webinar	The Education Network	When Coercive Control Meets Family Law: The Responsibility of Legal Practitioners
<b>2025</b>	Remotely to Melbourne	10th annual The Education Network Melbourne Family Law Conference	When Coercive Control Meets Family Law: The responsibility of Family Lawyers
	Webinar	Legalwise seminars	When the debts are greater than the assets
	Remotely to Sydney	Growing Families	Comparisons of international and domestic surrogacy
	Cape Town	27th Miller du Toit Cloete Inc/ University of the Western Cape Family Law Conference	Property Settlement in Australia
	Cape Town	27th Miller du Toit Cloete Inc/ University of the Western Cape Family Law Conference	Resolving Australian embryo disputes

# Submissions to Parliamentary/Government inquiries

Year	Inquiry	Form of evidence	Subject
2011	Tasmanian Legislative Council, Government Administration A Committee	Written, oral	Surrogacy
2013	Family Law Council	Written	Status of children
2014	Western Australia Surrogacy Act 2008 review	Written	Surrogacy
	Queensland Parliament	Written	As to a bill to continue advertising restrictions as to egg and sperm donors
2014-2015	New South Wales Surrogacy Act 2010 review	Written	Surrogacy
2015	Queensland Parliament, Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee	Written, oral	Civil partnerships
	House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs	Written; oral	Surrogacy roundtable
2016	South Australian Law Reform Institute	Written; participation in roundtable	LGBTI discrimination, especially as to surrogacy and ART
	House of Representatives, Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs	Written	Surrogacy
	Queensland Adoption Act 2009 review	Written	Adoption
2017	Senate inquiry as to proposed Marriage Act amendments	Written	Marriage
	Queensland Parliament, Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee	Written, oral	Amendments to Criminal Code to abolish gay panic defence
	Queensland Parliament, Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee	Written, oral	A Bill for the expungement of homosexual acts convictions.
2018	Queensland Parliament, Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee	Written	A Bill to amend Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act so that trans people no longer need to divorce to change their gender marker

	Australian Law Reform Commission, family law review	Oral	Family law review-submissions made in conjunction with LGBTI Legal Service
	Western Australian surrogacy review	Written, oral	Submissions about surrogacy and ART regulation in Western Australia
	South Australian surrogacy review	Written, oral	Submissions about surrogacy regulation in South Australia
<b>2018-2019</b>	Victorian assisted reproductive treatment review	Written, oral	Submissions about ART regulation in Victoria, including regulation of surrogacy
<b>2020</b>	Victorian government, following the assisted reproductive treatment review	Written	Submissions concerning further changes proposed arising out of the ART review
<b>2021</b>	Northern Territory Government Surrogacy Joint Working Group	Member	
	ACT Government Equality Australia	Panelist	Workshop as to intersex law reforms
<b>2022</b>	Queensland Parliament, Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee	Written, oral	Submissions concerning the rights of donor conceived adults
	WA donor and surrogacy review	Written, oral	Response as to surrogacy data on request from the review
<b>2022-2023</b>	Senate inquiry into universal access to reproductive healthcare	Written, oral	
<b>2023</b>	ACT Government	Written	Whether the ACT should have an Assisted Reproductive Treatment Act
	ACT Government	Written	Proposals for change to the Parentage Act 2004 (ACT) re surrogacy
	Asia Pacific Economic Community, Smart Families Initiative	Oral	
<b>2024</b>	Australian Government LGBTQIA+ roundtable	Oral	10 Year Action Plan for the Health and Wellbeing of LGBTQIA+ People
	Queensland Government	Written, oral	Assisted Reproductive Treatment Review
	Australian government	Written, oral	Review of the <i>Australian Passports Act 2007</i>

	New South Wales Parliament, Legislative Assembly, Committee of Community Services	Written	<i>Review of Equality Legislation Amendment (LGBTIQA+) Bill 2023</i>
	Queensland Parliament, Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee	Written	<i>Review of Assisted Reproductive Technology Bill 2024</i>
	NSW Government	Written	<i>Review of Surrogacy Act 2010 (NSW)</i>
<b>2025</b>	United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls	Written, oral	<i>On behalf of the Fertility Society of Australia and New Zealand and Rainbow Families Australia as to international surrogacy regulation</i>
	Australian Law Reform Commission	Oral	<i>Review of Australian surrogacy laws</i>

## Stephen currently is a member of:

- ✓ Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia (1994-)
- ✓ Family Law Practitioners Association of Queensland Ltd (1994-)
- ✓ International Academy of Family Lawyers, including as a member of the Forced Marriage Committee, the LGBT Committee and the Parentage Project Committee (as a Fellow, 2014-)
- ✓ American Bar Association, (associate), and one of three international representatives on the Assisted Reproductive Technologies Committee (2012-)
- ✓ Fellow, Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys (2014-) including as a member of the ART Resources Committee
- ✓ Member Australian Lawyers for Human Rights, LGBTIQ+ Committee
- ✓ Founder, LGBT Family Law Institute Australia (2016-)
- ✓ Asia-Pacific Rainbow Families Forum (2017- )
- ✓ Queensland Alliance for Kids (legal advisor and member) (2018-)
- ✓ Director, Fertility Society Australia and New Zealand Limited (2021-)
- ✓ Director, Fertility Society Australia and New Zealand Limited (2021-), Secretary (2024-)
- ✓ Member, Australian Law Reform Commission, Surrogacy Inquiry Advisory Committee (2025-)

## Authored works:

These include:

Year	Work	Periodical/Organisation
2009	Changes to Stamp Duty for Family Lawyers	Proctor/Queensland Law Society
	Update –child protection chapter	Queensland Practice Manual/ Thomson Reuters
2011	Co-author and principal researcher–State by State surrogacy guide–with Alexandra Harland	Family Law Review
2012	Trends as to International Surrogacy	Family Law Review
2013– 2016	Co-author with Bruce Hale and principal advocate–Resolution 112B: Position paper as to proposed Hague surrogacy convention–adopted by House of Delegates, American Bar Association, February 2016	Artificial Reproductive Technologies Committee/ American Bar Association
2015	The right to be a parent–regulating surrogacy in Australia	Rightnow
	Principal author–Think Local–Act Global, 10 must-knows about International Surrogacy–with Brian Esser	Family Advocate/ American Bar Association, Family Law Section
	Avoiding Another Baby Gammy	Australian Family Lawyer/Family Law Section, Law Council of Australia
	Surrogacy Down Under	American Society for Reproductive Medicine Newsletter
	The patchwork quilt: the surrogacy landscape in Australia	Family Law News, Special Edition on International Surrogacy, International Bar Association
	Review of Surrogacy, the Law and Human Rights	Alternative Law Journal
2016	Surrogacy in Australia–a missed opportunity	BioNews
	Is surrogacy legal in Australia?	O & G Magazine (magazine of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists)
	Whose rights are they, anyway?(with Bruce Hale)	The SciTech Lawyer, American Bar Association, Science and Technology Section
	Family Court requires wife to refund over AUD\$200,000 in spousal maintenance to husband	Family Law Update, International Bar Association

	Queensland allows LGBTI couples, singles to adopt	Alternative Law Journal (2016) 41(4) AltLJ 287
<b>2017</b>	Family Court recognizes parents under US surrogacy order	Proctor, Queensland Law Society
	Family Court tells Australian couple they are not the parents	Family Law Update, International Bar Association
<b>2018</b>	Australian Family Law in a State of Flux	Family Law Update, International Bar Association
	Zoe Durand, Inside Family Law: Conversations from the Coalface", Longueville Media-interview "Stephen Page: family lawyer with expertise in surrogacy"	
<b>2019</b>	Snapshot of domestic violence in Queensland	Social work focus, Australian Association of Social Workers
	For the love of...gametes	Proctor, Queensland Law Society
	International Comparison of LGBT Laws (co-author)	International Academy of Family Lawyers
	Masson v Parsons the practicalities: but for their acted on intention the child would not exist	Australian Family Lawyer, Family Law Section, Law Council of Australia
	Who is a parent is not esoteric rocket science	Ex Curia, Family Law Practitioners Association of Western Australia
<b>2020</b>	The impact of Covid-19 on family law in Australia	Family Law Update, International Bar Association
<b>2021</b>	Special ART edition of Family Court Review- guest co-editor with Gary Debele, and author Decoding the Jargon: Article on Terminology, and International Law Concerning ART	Family Court Review, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts
	The Australian surrogacy landscape- what have the last 10 years taught us?	International Family Law Journal
	Co-Author – Critical Perspectives on Human Rights Law In Australia – Volume 2	
<b>2022</b>	Review of Fertility and Cancer	Cancer Council of Australia
	When Not if: Surrogacy for Australians	Self-published book
<b>2023</b>	Precedent Surrogacy in Australia: The 'Failed Experiment'?	Australian Lawyers Alliance
	Review of Biological Parenthood and Reproductive Technologies	queios.com
	Planning to Resolve: ADR in ART	American Bar Association, <i>Family Advocate</i>
<b>2024</b>	ACT to have new surrogacy laws	<i>Bionews</i>

	New Fertility law for the Australian Capital Territory	<i>Bionews</i>
	Queensland's new Assisted Reproductive Technology Bill	<i>Bionews</i>
	LGBTIQ+ access to assisted reproductive treatment	<i>Family Court Review</i>
	International Assisted Reproductive Technology	American Bar Association
	Medallist launches surrogacy case book	Queensland Law Society, Proctor
	Chapter, <i>The Feminist Legislation Project</i>	Routledge
	Historic bill brings flood of tears	Queensland law Society, Proctor
	Australian IVF regulatory system, not eight	<i>Bionews</i>
	Australia can stop living the failed surrogacy experiment	<i>Australian Family Lawyer</i>



# Media

Stephen has spoken extensively in the media about family law, domestic violence and surrogacy issues including to:

## TV

### International

- ✓ XinhuaTV(China)
- ✓ Deutsche Welle (Germany)
- ✓ Fuji TV (Japan)
- ✓ Russia Today

### Network Seven

- ✓ Sunrise
- ✓ The Morning Show
- ✓ 7 News

### Nine Network

- ✓ National Nine News
- ✓ Today
- ✓ A Current Affair
- ✓ 60 Minutes

### Network Ten

- ✓ The Project
- ✓ Wake Up(pilot episode)

### Australian Broadcasting Corporation(ABC)

- ✓ ABC News
- ✓ The 7.30 Report
- ✓ ABC 24

### SBS

- ✓ SBS News
- ✓ Insight: "Baby Business" (2011),  
"Surrogacy" (2014)

### Sky News Australia

- ✓ Paul Murray Live
- ✓ The Kenny Report
- ✓ Sky News Afternoon

# Newspapers/Websites/Magazines

## International

- ✓ The New York Times
- ✓ The Wall Street Journal
- ✓ The Guardian
- ✓ Reuters
- ✓ The Daily MirrorAustralia
- ✓ The Daily Beast
- ✓ Abovethelaw.com
- ✓ Phnom Penh Post
- ✓ The Cambodia Daily
- ✓ Der Spiegel

## Australia/New Zealand

- ✓ The Age
- ✓ Sydney Morning Herald
- ✓ The Sun Herald
- ✓ Brisbane Times
- ✓ Stuff.co.nz
- ✓ The Australian

- ✓ News.com.au
- ✓ The Herald Sun
- ✓ The Daily Telegraph
- ✓ Huffington Post Australia
- ✓ The Courier-Mail
- ✓ The Western Australian
- ✓ Lawyers Weekly
- ✓ Crikey.com.au
- ✓ Brisbane Lawyer
- ✓ ABC Online
- ✓ Cosmopolitan
- ✓ Australia.creditcards.com
- ✓ Proctor (Queensland Law Society)
- ✓ Law Society Journal (The Law Society of New South Wales)

## Radio

### International

#### Radio NZ

- ✓ Afternoon drive
- ✓ Checkpoint (current affairs show)
- ✓ Nine to noon

#### Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)

- ✓ News Radio
- ✓ PM

- ✓ The Law Report
- ✓ The World Today
- ✓ Radio National's Life Matters
- ✓ Radio National's Background Briefing
- ✓ Triple J'sHack
- ✓ ABC Toowoomba
- ✓ ABC NSW
- ✓ ABC Gold Coast

- ✓ BC Brisbane
- ✓ ABC Mt Isa
- ✓ ABC Perth
- ✓ ABC Darwin
- ✓ Stephen appears from time to time on Afternoons with Katherine Feeney on ABC Brisbane “Legal Eagles”

### Sydney radio

- ✓ 2GB
- ✓ Hope FM *Open House*
- ✓ 2SM

### Brisbane radio

- ✓ 4BC
- ✓ B105
- ✓ 101FM
- ✓ Kiis 93.7 FM
- ✓ 99.7FM

### Melbourne radio

- ✓ 3AW
- ✓ MMM
- ✓ Mix101.1

### Adelaide radio

- ✓ Radio Adelaide

### Perth radio

- ✓ 6PR

## LGBTI media

- ✓ 4ZZZ Queer Radio
- ✓ JoyFM
- ✓ Samesame.com.au
- ✓ Qld Pride
- ✓ Star Observer
- ✓ QTV
- ✓ Qnews and before that Brother/Sister (for which Stephen contributed a column from 2000 to 2015)

### Podcasts

- ✓ Inside Family Law
- ✓ I Want to Put a Baby in You
- ✓ Let’s Talk IVF
- ✓ Politics of Everything

# Media recognition

Stephen has been recognized by the media for his expertise:

"One of Brisbane's most respected gay and lesbian friendly lawyers."	Brisbane Lawyer	April, 2008
"Stephen Page is one of Australia's leading surrogacy lawyers."	National Nine News	9 April, 2013
"Stephen Page, a leading Australian surrogacy lawyer"	Daily Telegraph	4 April, 2014
"Stephen Page, one of Australia's leading surrogacy lawyers"	Sydney Morning Herald	1 August 2014
"Prominent Australian surrogacy lawyer Stephen Page"	Sydney Morning Herald	3 August 2014
"Stephen Page, one of Australia's most eminent surrogacy lawyers"	Sun Herald	10 August, 2014
"Stephen Page, one of Australia's leading surrogacy lawyers"	Mix 101.1 FM	11 August, 2014
"Stephen Page, a leading Australian surrogacy lawyer"	The Age	11 August, 2014
Leading Australian surrogacy lawyer Stephen Page"	The Guardian	15 August, 2014
"Leading surrogacy lawyer Stephen Page"	The Courier-Mail	7 September, 2014
"Brisbane-based lawyer, Stephen Page, a family law expert"	Star Observer	June, 2015
"An internationally regarded expert on family law"	Brisbane Times	17 July, 2016
"A leading Australian surrogacy lawyer, Stephen Page"	The Guardian	11 September, 2016
"Seasoned practitioner...family law expert"	Lawyers Weekly	16 September, 2016
"Leading family law expert"	60 Minutes	18 September, 2016
"Australia's foremost expert in surrogacy laws"	Radio National, Background Briefing	12 February, 2017
"leading Australian surrogacy lawyer Stephen Page"	Essential Baby	6 April 2017
"Australia's most prominent surrogacy attorney Stephen Page"	The Public Discourse, Witherspoon Institute	19 April, 2017
"Stephen Page, an Australian lawyer specializing in surrogacy"	The Cambodia Daily	4 August, 2017

"prominent Australian fertility attorney Stephen Page"	Abovethelaw.com	9 August, 2017
"Australian surrogacy attorney Stephen Page"	Abovethelaw.com	16 August 2017
"family lawyer Stephen Page, who is an expert on surrogacy"	The Australian	21 September, 2017
"Stephen Page, a prominent Australian family law attorney"	Abovethelaw.com	8 November, 2017
"family law expert Stephen Page"	The Australian	11 November 2017
"surrogacy lawyer Stephen Page"	ABC Perth	15 January 2018
"Stephen Page, who is an internationally recognised family lawyer based in Australia.."	H.Hendrix, Desperately Seeking Semen, 2018	2018
"family lawyer Stephen Page"	The Australian	28 July 2018
"this column's favorite assisted reproductive technology-specialized Aussie solicitor, Stephen Page"	Abovethelaw.com	8 August 2018
"family partner Stephen Page"	The Australian	4 January 2019
"Lawyer Stephen Page is one of Australia's leading legal voices on donor conception."	60 Minutes Australia: "Babies at first sight"	17 February 2019
"Stephen Page leading surrogacy lawyer"	ABC24	9 July 2019
"As one of Australia's main surrogacy lawyers, Mr Page..."	ABC online	29 July 2019
"renowned surrogacy advocate Stephen Page"	The Australian	7 December 2019
"one of Australia's leading surrogacy lawyers"	Katherine Feeney, ABC Brisbane	4 October 2024

## Peer recognition

Stephen has been endorsed as the leading surrogacy lawyer in Australia by:

When	Who	Role
April, 2014	Mr Steve Snyder, Minneapolis	Then Chair, Artificial Reproductive Technologies Committee, American Bar Association
April, 2014	Mr John Weltman, Boston	Founder and President, Weltman Law Group and Circle Surrogacy, one of the world's oldest and largest surrogacy agencies

<b>December, 2014</b>	Dr Kim Bergman, Los Angeles	Psychologist, co-founder and co-owner, Growing Generations, one of the world's oldest and largest surrogacy agencies
<b>January, 2015</b>	Mr Rich Vaughn, Los Angeles	Chair, Artificial Reproductive Technologies Committee, American Bar Association
<b>May, 2015</b>	Hon John Dawkins MLC	"South Australian Legislative Council: "A lawyer who has extraordinary expertise in surrogacy legislation".
<b>June, 2015</b>	John Gardner MP	"South Australian Legislative Assembly: "An expert surrogacy lawyer from Queensland."
<b>May, 2017</b>	Scott Buckley, Weltman Law Group	"world renowned attorney in Australia"
<b>July, 2017</b>	Rodney Chiang-Cruise, convenor, Gay Dads Australia	"Stephen Page is one of Australia's and the world's most respected and knowledgeable lawyers when it comes to Surrogacy."
<b>August, 2017</b>	Andy Vorzimer, Vorzimer/Masserman	"Stephen is universally regarded as the preeminent legal expert in Australia when it comes to surrogacy"
<b>September, 2017</b>	Sara Cohen, Fertility Law Canada	"Stephen is the leading lawyer in Australia working with parents through surrogacy."
<b>October 2017</b>	South Australian Law Reform Institute Surrogacy: a legislative framework	"an experienced Queensland lawyer who practises in this area" and "a leading lawyer in this field"
<b>August, 2019</b>	Dr David Molloy, medical director, Queensland Fertility Group; Chair, IVF Directors Group, Fertility Society of Australia	"Australia's leading assisted reproduction lawyer"
<b>November 2019</b>	Judge Dearden, in the application for a parentage order made by Stephen and his husband	"A widely acknowledged expert in the field" of surrogacy documents were, as usual, meticulous"
<b>November, 2020</b>	Proctor, Queensland Law Society magazine	Headline: "Surrogacy law leader named inaugural Pride in Law Award recipient". Opening statement: "Leading Queensland and internationally renowned surrogacy solicitor Stephen Page has been named winner of the inaugural Pride in Law award in recognition of stellar contribution of LGBTIQ+ practitioners in the profession."
<b>December, 2020</b>	Roundtable, Family Law Practitioners Association of Queensland magazine	"He is internationally regarded as one of the leading surrogacy lawyers in Australia and one of Brisbane's most respected LGBTIQ+ friendly lawyers."
<b>May, 2021</b>	Kathleen DeLisle, Nichols, DeLisle and Lightholder, Boston	"Attorney Page is everyone's go-to person for all matters in Australia."

<b>January 2023</b>	Bill Houghton, Sensible Surrogacy	Stephen Page “the leading surrogacy lawyer for LGBT couples in Australia”
<b>January 2023</b>	Scott Swanberg, Egghelpers	Stephen Page- “the top fertility lawyer in Australia”
<b>March 2023</b>	Queensland Law Society, Proctor	When it comes to surrogacy law, Stephen Page sets the bar internationally.
<b>February 2024</b>	Michelle May AM, KC	Stephen Page is not an expert on surrogacy in Australia, he is <i>the</i> expert

## Doyle’s Guide

<b>Year/s</b>	<b>Ranking</b>	<b>Category</b>
2018, 2019	Recommended	Leading Parenting and Children’s Matters Lawyers- Queensland
2020, 2021	Leading	Leading Parenting and Children’s Matters Lawyers- Brisbane
2018, 2020, 2021	Recommended	Leading Family and Divorce Lawyers- Brisbane
2022	Recommended	Leading family and divorce lawyers – Brisbane
	Recommended	Leading parenting and children’s matter
2023	Recommended	Lawyers – Brisbane

## White Ribbon activities

Stephen has been a White Ribbon Ambassador from 2008 to 2019. His activities include speaking extensively to community groups about domestic violence. He has been a partner of Australia’s CEO Challenge from 2003, and a director and deputy chair between 2008 and 2019.



# Awards

<b>2001</b>	Certificate of appreciation, Gold Coast Sexual Assault Support Service
<b>2005</b>	Co-recipient, Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Community Business Partnerships, State and Territory Business Award
<b>2010</b>	Certificate of appreciation from the Queensland Program of Assistance for Survivors of Torture and Trauma
<b>2011</b>	Finalist, White Ribbon Ambassador of the Year
	Winner, Professional Services, Quest Business Awards
<b>2015</b>	LGBTIQ Activist of the Year, Brisbane Queen's Birthday Ball, Brisbane Pride Awards
	Rainbow Key Award by LGBTI Legal Service, for five years volunteering service
<b>2016</b>	Queensland Law Society, Equity and Diversity Awards to Harrington Family Lawyers for Small Firm Practice Initiative
<b>2018</b>	Certificate of appreciation, World Bank, Women, Business and the Law 2018
<b>2019</b>	Post-Graduate Teaching Award 2019, School of Women's and Children's Health, University of New South Wales
	Certificate of appreciation, World Bank, Women, Business and the Law 2019
<b>2020</b>	Inaugural recipient, Pride in Law Award
	Certificate of appreciation, World Bank, Women, Business and the Law 2020
<b>2021</b>	Certificate of appreciation, World Bank, Women, Business and the Law 2021
	Queensland Law Society 25 years as a Queensland Law Society Accredited Family Law Specialist
	Judge, Lawyer's Weekly Champions of Pride Award 2021
<b>2022</b>	Judge, Australian Law Awards
	Contributor, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Social Institutions and Gender index
	Certificate of appreciation, World Bank, Women, Business and the Law 2022
<b>2023</b>	Queensland Law Society President's Medal recipient
	Certificate of appreciation, World Bank, Women, Business and the Law 2023
<b>2024</b>	Certificate of appreciation, World Bank, Women, Business and the Law 2024
	Judge, Australian Law Awards, 30 Lawyers under 30
	Judge, Australian Law Awards, Women in the Law Award

## Queensland Law Society representative as to domestic violence matters

Stephen has represented the Queensland Law Society in relation to the following domestic violence issues:

<b>2011</b>	Queensland Law Society representative and White Ribbon Ambassador representative to two day intensive as to community consultation as to draft domestic violence laws
<b>2014</b>	Queensland Law Society representative on a panel as to proposed Domestic and Family Violence Protection Rules
	Queensland Law Society representative as to research undertaken by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General concerning private protection order applications

## Career highlights, other than court cases

These have included:

<b>1985</b>	Helping keep clients and their children safe
<b>1994</b>	Co-founding a domestic violence service
<b>1998</b>	Obtaining protection in a domestic violence trial, having been the subject of stalking
<b>2002</b>	Successfully lobbying singlehandedly to change domestic violence laws to protect children
<b>1999-2002</b>	Assisted Queensland Association of Gay and Lesbian Rights in drafting proposed laws to remove discrimination. The efforts culminated in the repeal of most discriminatory laws in Queensland in 2002.
<b>2011</b>	Giving evidence at Tasmanian Parliament inquiry as to its Surrogacy Bill. The evidence resulted in changes to the bill.
<b>2011</b>	Speaking at the world's first international surrogacy legal conference (in Las Vegas)
<b>2012-2013</b>	Convening Queenslanders for Equality, and stopping proposed discriminatory surrogacy laws
<b>2012</b>	Being appointed as one of two international representatives on the Executive Council, American Bar Association, Family Law Section, Artificial Reproductive Technologies Committee.
<b>2014</b>	Becoming a Fellow of International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers[now International Academy of Family Lawyers], and first international Fellow of the American Academy of Assisted Reproductive treatment Attorneys [now American Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys]
	In one week appearing in surrogacy cases in courts in three States: Victoria, Queensland and South Australia

<b>Nov 2014– Jan 2015</b>	In three months I obtained parentage orders in four States: Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia
<b>May 2015</b>	I attended two history making conferences back to back in London: the first meeting of the LGBT Family Law Institute outside the US (including moderating a session), and the first surrogacy symposium of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (including speaking at)
<b>September, 2015</b>	Speaking at the Brisbane Pride Rally, and then being one of the leaders in the Brisbane Pride March
<b>February, 2016</b>	The ruling body of the American Bar Association, the House of Delegates, unanimously endorsed resolution 112B, as to a proposed Hague convention about private international law, including surrogacy, in accordance with a position paper of which I was co-author and principal advocate. Subsequently the working group of The Hague conference adopted the same philosophical position.
<b>August, 2016</b>	I spoke at the announcement by the Queensland Government to amend the Adoption Act 2009 to allow same sex couples, singles and those undergoing IVF to be able to adopt.
<b>August, 2016</b>	The Hon. Michael Kirby and I were the speakers at the 6th anniversary of the LGBTI Legal Service, held in the Banco Court of the Supreme Court of Queensland
<b>May, 2017</b>	Acting for the parents in <i>Re Grosvenor</i> [2017] – the first registration in Australia of a US surrogacy order when there was commercial surrogacy
<b>October, 2017</b>	Organising Lawyers Marching for Equality – the first time lawyers marched as a group in Brisbane Pride March
<b>November, 2017</b>	Speaking at the launch of Pride in Law, Australia's first LGBTIQ lawyers networking association
<b>May, 2018– June, 2019</b>	A member of the organising committee, International Surrogacy Forum, held at the University of Cambridge (UK), June, 2019.
<b>November 2019</b>	Obtained a parentage order for him and his husband.
<b>2021</b>	Stephen's falling in love was written by Trent Dalton, <i>Love Stories</i> , 4th estate AU
	First lawyer to be appointed to the board of the Fertility Society of Australia and New Zealand
<b>2021–2023</b>	Member of the Organising Committee for the Second International Surrogacy Forum, Copenhagen (June 2023)
<b>2022</b>	Publication of <i>When Not If: Surrogacy for Australians</i>
<b>2023</b>	Queensland Law Society President's Medal
	First lawyer to be elected to the board of the Fertility Society of Australia and New Zealand
	Nominee by Queensland Law Society for Law Council of Australia President's Award

<b>2024</b>	Publication by the American Bar Association of <i>International Assisted Reproductive Technology</i>
<b>2025</b>	Member of the Organising Committee for the Third International Surrogacy Forum, Cape Town (March 2025)
	Appeared in the Australian Capital Territory- the fifth jurisdiction I have appeared in

## Significant court cases

<b><i>Regino &amp; Regino</i> [1994] Fam-CA 147</b>	Successfully opposed Hague application
<b><i>Rittman &amp; Rittman</i> [2011] FamCA 186</b>	Acted for the successful husband where the Court found the wife engaged in perjury and fabrication of evidence
<b><i>Lusito &amp; Lusito</i> [2011] FMCA-fam 55</b>	Independent children's lawyer in a lesbian parenting dispute
<b><i>LWH &amp; LMH</i> [2012] QChC 26</b>	For the surrogate, in the first case in the world to decide conception
<b><i>Packer &amp; Irwin</i> [2013] FCCA 658</b>	For the birth mother, in a three parent parenting case
<b><i>Crisp &amp; Clarence</i> [2015] Fam-CA 964; <i>Clarence &amp; Crisp</i> [2016] FamCAFC 157</b>	For the birth mother, as to who was a parent
<b><i>Z (A Child) (No 2)</i> [2016] EWHC 1191</b>	Expert witness for the applicant, Court declared that UK law prohibiting singles from obtaining surrogacy orders was incompatible with human rights
<b><i>Re Grosvenor</i> [2017] FamCA 366</b>	For the applicants, registering a US surrogacy order
<b><i>Sigley &amp; Sigley</i> [2018] FamCA 3</b>	For the applicants- registering a US surrogacy order
<b><i>Rose</i> [2018] FamCA 978</b>	For the applicant, who sought to register a US surrogacy order
<b><i>Allan &amp; Peters</i> [2018] FamCA 1063</b>	For the applicants, who sought to register a US surrogacy order
<b><i>RBK &amp; MMJ</i> [2019] QChC 42</b>	For the applicants- who is a parent under the <i>Status of Children Act 1978</i> (Qld), s.23
<b><i>KRB &amp; BFH v. RKH &amp; BJH</i> [2020] QChC 42</b>	For the applicants, the court <i>applying the International Convention on the Rights of the Child</i>
<b><i>Wickham &amp; Toledano</i> [2022] FedCFamC1f 32</b>	For the applicants, the Court ruling that the respondent was not a parent nor concerned with the care, welfare and development of children born through IVF
<b><i>CDA v TRA</i> [2024] QChC 12</b>	For the applicants, where a parentage order was made for a child who was conceived naturally

## Volunteering

Stephen has volunteered providing advice at community legal centres:

<b>1988-1990</b>	South Brisbane Community Immigration Legal Centre
<b>2005-2010</b>	Caxton Legal Centre
<b>2010-2015</b>	LGBTI Legal Service

## Other

Stephen has trained counsellors on many occasions about keeping file notes and risk management with file notes.

For several years Stephen was a guest lecturer at Griffith University to post-graduate law students about domestic violence issues. Stephen has previously lectured counselling students at the Ashby Allan Institute about counselling and ethics.

Stephen was for some years the chair of the QUT Law Alumni Group.

*Current as of 27 June 2025*





RUSSELL SHAKESPEARE

Stephen and Mitch Page with daughter Elizabeth at home in Brisbane

## Surrogacy law settled at just six months old

### EXCLUSIVE

STEVE JACKSON  
NSW EDITOR

It's natural for parents to want their children to follow in their footsteps — but for one of the nation's leading surrogacy lawyers, his newborn has already achieved that.

At just six months old, Elizabeth, the daughter of renowned surrogacy advocate Stephen Page, has helped set a legal precedent and closed a loophole that could have allowed up to four people to

be recognised as the parents of a child born via a surrogate.

The achievement came after Mr Page and his husband Mitch Page welcomed their baby girl with the help of a surrogate in July before applying to have the parental rights for their daughter transferred to them in November.

"It was the most nerve-racking experience to appear in court (with my own family)," the 56-year-old lawyer said.

"I have been an advocate for over 30 years and the only experience which has been more terrifying was the first one in 1985 when I was an articled law clerk."

The court action involved clarifying who Elizabeth's parents were in the eyes of the law.

Prior to the action, the surrogate and her partner, as well as Mr Page and the genetic father, which in this case was Mitch, could be deemed a parent.

Mr Page's application narrowed who Elizabeth's parents were down to just the surrogate and her partner. This left the way clear for a clean transfer of parentage to Mr Page and Mitch.

"There was an uncertain point of law and we happened to be next and needed clarity for our daughter, Elizabeth, before there could

be an order transferring parentage," Mr Page said. "For that to happen, there had to be a finding in who was the parent before the order was made."

Mr Page said his case distinguished a previous ruling in the High Court in June that suggested each surrogacy case could be judged on its own merits, leaving it open for the surrogate, her partner, the genetic father and his partner to be deemed parents.

He said this could prove contentious if the surrogacy arrangement broke down.

"The High Court in *Masson v Parsons* made plain that every

case is decided on its own facts and that there might be more than two parents," Mr Page said.

"We wanted certainty for our daughter. For those in Queensland, (our precedent) makes it plain that before an order is made, a single surrogate is the only parent."

"The case shows that before a parentage order is made, the only parents are the surrogate — and if she has a partner, her partner — not the genetic dad."

He said the case also made it clear that federal laws on who a parent was did not apply to state proceedings.



# Where our fertility law clients have come from

Australia	
1	Australian Capital Territory
2	New South Wales
3	Northern Territory
4	Queensland
5	South Australia
6	Tasmania
7	Victoria
8	Western Australia
Overseas	
America	
1	Bahamas
2	Brazil
3	Canada
4	Chile
5	USA
Europe	
6	Belgium
7	Denmark
8	France
9	Germany
10	Greece
11	Ireland
12	Italy
13	Luxembourg
14	Netherlands
15	Poland
16	Russia
17	Spain
18	Switzerland
19	UK
20	Ukraine

Middle East	
21	Iran
22	Israel
23	UAE
Asia	
24	China
25	Hong Kong
26	India
27	Indonesia
28	Japan
29	Malaysia
30	Philippines
31	Singapore
32	South Korea
33	Taiwan
34	Thailand
Oceania	
35	New Caledonia
36	New Zealand
37	Papua New Guinea
38	Solomon Islands
39	Samoa

page  
provan