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Law's #MeToo moment by Kieran Pender

In the wake of the Dyson Heydon revelations, Kieran Pender writes about law's #MeToo moment. In his powerful essay, he explores the conditions that allow sexual harassment to continue, applauds the bravery of individuals in speaking up, and asks how we can find a way to move forward towards structural change.



Kieran Pender

An extract from Kieran Pender's essay

'There is a paradox in the way we talk about workplace sexual harassment. We gravitate to stories, to individuals, to outrage. The Heydon story was on our front pages for a week. But he is a symptom, not the cause. Heydon is just another wrongdoer in a profession with plentiful harassers and in a society where harassment is rife. The ex-judge's status makes the purported conduct all the more reprehensible, but his harassing is otherwise depressingly orthodox.'

About Kieran Pender

Kieran Pender is an Australian writer and lawyer. He is a senior legal adviser with the IBA's Legal Policy & Research Unit in London.

Interviews

Kieran Pender is available for interview. Please contact Peter Rose at <u>editor@australianbookreview.com.au</u> or call on (03) 9699 8822.

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