Jennifer Nielsen
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Bio Sketch
Jennifer is a senior lecturer with the School of Law & Justice at Southern Cross University and teaches discrimination law, employment and workplace laws, contracts, and legal research. In 2008, she was awarded her Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Melbourne for her thesis, *An Intractable Problem: the endurance of whiteness in the mainstream workplace*, which critiqued the effect of whiteness on the legal framework designed to challenge discrimination against Indigenous Australians in the workplace. She has also completed a study of women’s experiences of gender bias in the civil litigation system in regional and rural communities for the NSW Department of Women.

She has been active in community organisations in the Northern Rivers region in NSW, including the Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre and the Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre, and in 2001, was awarded ‘Volunteer of the Year’ by the NSW Law & Justice Foundation for a long-term commitment to improving access to justice in the region, particularly for socially and economically marginalised people. Before joining Southern Cross in 1994, she practised as a solicitor in New South Wales and Victoria, and worked in academic positions with both the Monash Orientation Scheme for Aborigines and the Faculty of Law at Monash University.

Area(s) of Expertise
- Critical race and whiteness studies, with a focus on its application to law
- Colonialism and postcolonialism
- Discrimination law
- Employment law and workplace issues
- Indigenous peoples and mainstream law

Current Research Activities
The focus of Jennifer’s current research is the application of critical whiteness studies to discrimination law and the workplace.

Two Key Publications