



Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

Mr Stephen Gageler SC
Solicitor-General
3-5 National Circuit
Barton ACT 2600

23 August 2010

Dear Solicitor-General

Matters have arisen which have given me considerable concern about the exercise of very important obligations of my office under the Constitution.

It has been suggested in some quarters that the fact that my daughter is married to the Honourable Bill Shorten MP creates some sort of conflict of interest that might impugn my ability to carry out the functions of my office.

The issue of integrity and trust in the office is obviously of the utmost importance not only to me but to the Australian people.

I am therefore seeking your urgent advice as to whether these circumstances create any constitutional or other legal impediment to the proper exercise of my functions, particularly in the current circumstances where the outcome of Saturday's election remains to be determined and may involve me as the Governor-General playing some role.

Yours sincerely,

Quentin Bryce

23/8.