

Born in New Zealand, David Tait received his Ph.D. from the London School of Economics, and is currently an Associate Professor in the School of Law at the University of Canberra. He has undertaken research into various sentencing issues, including magistrates' use of imprisonment (with Ken Polk), changing sentencing patterns in Victoria (with Arie Freiberg and Stuart Ross), sentencing information systems, suspended sentences, and increases in recidivism brought about by excessive uses of incarceration. He has also analysed different forms of ritual process in courts and tribunals. He leads three ARC projects in the justice environments area, on juries and interactive visual evidence, video-mediated communications in the court and court safety and security. Industry partners for these projects include the the AFP, the AIJA, the ACT DPP and courts and justice departments in Victoria, Western Australia and South Australia. He is also a chief investigator on an ARC-funded study of mental health tribunals with Terry Carney and Duncan Chappell.