

KORNWEIBEL ARMSTRONG  
A R C H I T E C T S

Productivity Commission  
Architects Inquiry  
LB2 Collins St East  
Melbourne Vic 8003

18 Dec 99

**REF: DEREGULATION OF THE PROFESSION**

I am a registered architect in the State of Western Australia, and am deeply concerned at the possibility of the profession being deregulated.

If carried, this proposal will do nothing to enhance the quality of the built environment. It will state to the world that architectural education in Australia has no value, and our cultural inheritance is of no consequence. The national and international reputation of many Australian architects is a direct result of our tertiary education, and registration and maintenance of standards by the Architects Registration Boards in each State.

Many countries of the world have legislation preventing the design of buildings by anyone other than a registered architect, and many countries recognise the significant value of the profession by commissioning major projects through architectural competitions.

Already, too much building in Australia is designed, and I use the word generously, by non-professionals who have no qualification other than drafting skills. There is sufficient competition within the profession as it is. It is not an exclusive club, any more than the legal, medical, scientific and educational professions are exclusive. All require standards that must be maintained for the protection and betterment of society.

Deregulation will guarantee nothing but mediocrity.

(signature)

Robin Kornweibel FRA1A  
cc Architects Registration Board of WA