

Associate Professor Brin Grenyer  
Chair  
Psychology Board of Australia  
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13 April 2010

Dear Associate Professor Grenyer

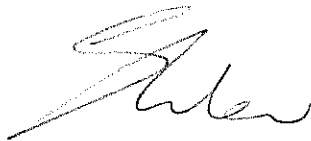
At its last meeting held on the 6 April 2010, the NSW Psychologists Registration Board discussed its response to the *Consultation paper on codes and guidelines*. It is noted that due to your current position as both President of the NSW Psychologists Registration Board and Chair of the Psychology Board of Australia, that you did not provide input into this discussion and therefore this response.

The NSW Psychologists Registration Board appreciates the opportunity to comment on the *Consultation paper on codes and guidelines*.

The NSW Psychologists Registration Board is concerned with the proposal that "If photographs of people are used in advertising, the photographs must only depict patients or clients who have actually undergone the advertised treatment and who have provided consent for publication of the photograph" (6.1 Use of graphic or visual representations - p.5 of the Guidelines on advertising).

In the practice of psychology, attention needs to be given to the unequal power within professional relationships, and the potential vulnerability of patients within such relationships. We therefore do not believe it is ethical for psychologists to depict photographs of former patients, which may put them in a vulnerable position, even having sought their permission. In particular psychologists must give serious consideration to the potential vulnerability of specific groups (eg. children, people in a life crisis, people with impairment or disability).

Yours sincerely



Mary Shanahan  
**REGISTRAR**