



**MIGRATION INSTITUTE
— OF AUSTRALIA —**

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

The Migration Institute of Australia commends the focus on international education [*Our schools for scandal*, 23/5/09] as any unscrupulous behaviour deserves attention.

Appalling behaviour by dishonest offshore education agents and a small number of private training colleges harm Australia's reputation overseas. This kind of behaviour brings disrepute to our migration program and to Australia as a premier education destination. It's utterly disgraceful that young people are being falsely enticed to Australia.

It is unrealistic to pretend that, for some overseas students, studying in Australia is completely separate to an interest in possibly living or working here. Our view is that anyone who provides Australian migration advice must be a Registered Migration Agent, and we commend the suggestion that education agents be similarly registered. Registering education agents could provide the same surety to students that the registration of migration agents provides to visa applicants.

Kind regards,

Maurene Horder
CEO, Migration Institute of Australia

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About MIA - *The Migration Institute of Australia is the professional association for Australian migration service providers worldwide. It represents Registered Migration Agents who provide services to families, businesses and industries.*