

Committee Secretary
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs
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Baden Hitchcock (wosomo)

28 September, 2017

Submission to the Parliamentary inquiry into the growing presence of inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 'style' art and craft products and merchandise for sale across Australia.

Question 1 - How does Fake Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art effect you and your community? Why is it important to do something about this?

It creates false perceptions of what aboriginal and torres strait islander art is and turns what is so embedded in indigenous culture into a commodity for australian tourists.

Question 2 - Should the Federal Government change the laws relating to Fake Art? What changes do you suggest?

Create protection laws surrounding aboriginal and torres strait artworks and education programs to the wider public as to why this is so important.

Question 3 - What can we do to better promote and support the creation of authentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts?

More accessible platforms in which you can access what government or local opportunities are out there in terms of funding, residencies and curatorial exhibitions. Such as a website that links you to both state and federal grants in relation to indigenous art that also lets you know of different workshops etc.

Question 4 - What else can we do as a community to stop Fake Art?

Get the younger indigenous generations more involved!!!! Workshops run by elders or aunties and uncles in relation to weaving or painting or dance and song. Both in the city and on community. And not necessarily as part of the school curriculum but a weekly space/studio which could be open to all ages whom identify as indigenous. So many young curious ones out there! Like me. Encourage and nourish more indigenous artists and curators.

Question 5 - Would you like to add anything else?

Where are the indigenous curators??

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