



PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS**

Exhibit 10

The content of this exhibit is in video format
please click on the link to view

[https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary Business/Committees/
House/Indigenous Affairs/The growing presence of inauthen
tic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander style art and craft/
Videos.](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Indigenous_Affairs/The_growing_presence_of_inauthentic_Aboriginal_and_Torres_Strait_Islander_style_art_and_craft/Videos)

Bec Mac: Hi. Bec Mac here, and I am in WA. Oh, my God! And I'm with the star of WA, Phil Walley-Stack. How are you going, WA? How are you going, Phil?

Phillip Walley-Stack: Pretty good. I don't know about 'star'.

Bec Mac: You are a star. Like, you do everything. You're not just a triple threat; you've got four things going on. Can you talk us through your work and how many things you're doing right now.

Phillip Walley-Stack: If I do that, it might get tiring. But no. You know, you just do what you do.

Bec Mac: Yeah.

Phillip Walley-Stack: You know, you work in the arts industry, so you—and it's all about helping each other and, you know, other artists, and other artists helping you, and it's back and forth. So.

Bec Mac: Yes.

Phillip Walley-Stack: And then you get tied up into a lot of things, so you just do your thing, you know.

Bec Mac: But you're a singer. You're a radio presenter. You also design sleepwear, which is quite hot; I can't wait to get some on myself. But right now we're here to talk about fake art in WA. So why is it so important to have this discussion here in Western Australia right now?

Phillip Walley-Stack: Well, because it's a national thing.

Bec Mac: Yes.

Phillip Walley-Stack: You know, we can't just do things—make a movement happen and then it's just on one side of the country. So getting you over here—you know, getting the voices of the WA mob as well, you know, obviously being the biggest state, in Western Australia.

Bec Mac: Yes.

Phillip Walley-Stack: So trying to involve a lot of the community and a lot of people right through the state to get behind this campaign and to push it.

Bec Mac: Now, how is fake art impacting your community and you?

Phillip Walley-Stack: Well, it's pretty much taken money out of our people's pockets, you know. We've got a lot of artists out there, and there's a lot of struggling artists, you know, whether you're a blackfella or a whitefella, you know.

Bec Mac: Yes, it's a bloody hard game.

Phillip Walley-Stack: Well, it comes down to a lot of the copyright stuff, you know. It's—you can't copy someone else's work and then call it authentic, you know. So to block out the fake art, and especially with a lot of our Aboriginal communities, where they thrive and, you know, make their living off selling their art and their pictures—their paintings. It's—someone else copying that and then selling it, and selling it in bulk, is just not right.

Bec Mac: Yeah. It's inconceivable it's still happening, and so that's why it's so important that action becomes a law, like, and parliament changes this law. Is that what you—do you think that would have an incredible impact if that happened?

Phillip Walley-Stack: I think, yes, it will have a big impact, you know, to bring that law in so that, you know, we can't have these people who are mass-producing fake Aboriginal art and selling it for, you know, for chips.

Bec Mac: Yes.

Phillip Walley-Stack: You know, down in all the markets that you see—you know, the street stalls and things like that. We've got to cut down on it. We've got to really start helping our own mob to become our own self businesses, you know, so they can look after themselves, look after communities and look after their families, you know. And I think that's where the big change will come.

Bec Mac: And, on that point, what can we do more to support and to promote Indigenous artists and Torres Strait Island artists?

Phillip Walley-Stack: Stop buying fake art.

Bec Mac: Yeah. So it's back to the consumer in a way, though, isn't it, for everyone to be aware and to ask the question?

Phillip Walley-Stack: Yeah, to ask the questions, you know—who is it from? Don't just tick a box, you know, to, you know—it comes to the gifts and things. You know, really take the time to ask the question about where it's from, you know. It's—you go and buy medicine. You're not just going to buy any sort of medicine and take it, you know. You make sure that it's right for you. And, once you do that with art, you sort of get that story behind it,

and it means a lot more as well, so you get that feeling and that connection to that story of that piece that you're taking home. So.

Bec Mac: Yeah. So it's back to the community as well, really, to be vigilant and to make sure that you are buying a genuine piece of work from an Indigenous or Torres Strait Islander artist.

Phillip Walley-Stack: Exactly.

Bec Mac: Yeah.

Phillip Walley-Stack: Yeah.

Bec Mac: Well, Phil, I'm excited. You're going to introduce—show me around town, introduce me to many people in Perth, and we're going to be chatting to lots of artists about their work and how this fake art is affecting them right now and what we can do to make a change—so exciting.

Phillip Walley-Stack: Well, to everyone out there listening on Facebook, obviously we're on set here at *Noongar Dandjoo*, so make sure that you tune in NITV—*Noongar Dandjoo*—on your set. I don't know what number series we're going out, but all them follows over there make me look good!

Bec Mac: Ha, ha, ha! Hi, guys! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

Phillip Walley-Stack: So make sure—if you're in Perth here and from wherever you are, hit us up on this Facebook, and we'll come and visit you and we'll have a yarn, and let's get WA behind, you know, because that's what we need. We need our voices out there. We need people speaking up. It is a federal thing that's happening right across the country, so let's make it happen and speak up as one voice.

Bec Mac: We can do it! Whoo! Ha, ha, ha!

Phillip Walley-Stack: Do it. Do it. You do it.

Bec Mac: Do it.

Phillip Walley-Stack: Do it.

Bec Mac: Do it.