



PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS**

Exhibit 17

The content of this exhibit is in video format
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House/Indigenous Affairs/The growing presence of inauthen
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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)

Andrew Gall: Hi. I'm Andrew Gall. I'm a Pakana from Lutruwita, so I'm a Tasmanian Aboriginal artist and jeweller. It's important because our culture is being desecrated, in essence, because of these people that are producing this fake art. It is like taking it away from us. As individual artists or, you know, collaborative artists we can't do it for the same, like, price, you know, for that. Plus the people at the other end, who purchase—they come to Australia and they purchase art, and they believe it's Indigenous art, and it's not, so they are receiving something fake.

So it's definitely, you know, the wrong thing. We need to do something about it. We can be more proactive. We're out and about. We see things. We should be able to take a note of where we see it, who we see it, the name of the people that we see it with, who's trying to sell it. And then we take that to a relevant authority who, you know, if it exists or doesn't exist. We need to get one. The government needs to act and pass laws actually removing—take the fake art into the fraudulent area of our current laws. The people that are doing it need to be punished for the crime that they're doing, because it is a crime. They are representing our culture when they've got nothing to do with our culture.

If I go to put a tender in to supply art for some place, I'm most likely not going to get it, because I can't have it made overseas by somebody who's not Indigenous, so that would affect me personally greatly. We need a national body, a body with teeth, an independent body to be able to have our communities, our individual artists—and not just Indigenous people but non-Indigenous people that see this and don't like this, that they've got somewhere to go and report this to and know something's going to happen about it.