

To the Senate Community Affairs Committee
Regarding the Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill 2011

Name: Cheryl Howard

I wish to make a submission to the Committee to express my opposition to the proposed Stronger Futures legislation.

As a citizen of Australia I support and revere our Indigenous people. I respect their endeavours to retain their own culture which can be of great benefit to all Australians. The Indigenous can only grow in confidence and increase their participation in Australian society as equals when they are treated with respect for their dignity, receive acknowledgement for their abilities and when their valuable contributions are recognised.

Being treated as inferior and subjected to controls and checks robs any people of the sense of pride necessary to live self-regulated lives. A vibrant, living Aboriginal culture, as has already begun to be demonstrated in the arts, can do much to enhance and enrich our nation.

A subjugated people can produce nothing but misery.

Thank you.

CHERYL HOWARD