

**Submission re Stronger Futures to the Senate Community
Affairs Submission**

Opposition to Northern Territory Bill 2011 - Stronger Futures

My name is Marie Williams rsm.

I am a Sister of Mercy, belonging to the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guines.

My address

I strongly recommend that the above legislation be withdrawn and that an alternative policy be developed. I am appalled and ashamed at the thought that the Federal Government could threaten to extend the Northern Territory Intervention.

I come with this proposal having experienced first-hand for seven years what life is like in a desert community of aboriginal Australians. I beg you to bring some measure of sanity into a situation which has become so de-humanizing. Let there be room for some genuine consultation. There appears to be no respect at all for either the people involved, or for their ties to their land, or for their languages, or for their cultures.

Listen to right reason and do not let political agendas get in the way of democracy, compassion and the "fair go" we subscribe to as a nation.