

This is a submission to the inquiry into 'Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill 2011' and two related bills.

So far, the Northern Territory intervention has not been successful. Its heavy-handed military approach was based on a false premise (rumours of Aboriginal pedophile rings), and its 'one-size-fits-all' attitude to the needs of Aboriginal people has not managed to improve the living conditions or wellbeing of those people.

Aboriginal people are asking for proper consultation on their needs so that the money being spent can be spent wisely and effectively. It is imperative that they be given the chance to have a quality of life that is comparable to the rest of Australia. This does not mean that they should necessarily live as white Australians live. They should live in the way that suits them and their cultural needs. They deserve to be compensated for the years of being pushed around, of being denied their culture. This is the Australian government's chance to listen to them, to provide the infrastructure for **them** to find the way in which they can combine their culture and ours.

This submission asks that you listen to the Aboriginal people and use the funding earmarked for further 'intervention' to help provide a renaissance of Aboriginal life and culture instead.

Yours sincerely,

Kathy Prokhovnik