

senators

it is quite obvious to all and sundry that the gillard government and minister jenny macklin, in particular, have no intention to be swayed one iota from their chosen path of ignoring the elders of the prescribed communities and to continue down the assimilationist road of dispossessing the traditional communities from their traditional lands.

that this whole process, first initiated by the racist howard government in a frenzy of outright lies and media compliance and manipulation, that is now being honed to further disadvantage the aboriginal people residing in the nt, is nothing but a land grab to satisfy the multinational and australian miners to rape the sacred lands for profit. a profit that is sent overseas whilst the industry giggles madly all the way to the overseas banks.

how many of our greatly esteemed elders must speak up for you to take notice of them? these are not insignificant people speaking from the cities like warren mundine, ms. marcia langton or even noel pearson, among others. whilst these three certainly are heard to allow the government to continue their lies and not-so-hidden plans, they are false voices and do not have any authority whatsoever to speak for the aborigines of the prescribed communities. we are not one people whom you wish to subsume into your invasion society. we are many proud nations as your invasion tactics have not committed total genocide but still you continue to implement programs that treat us as third class citizens in our own nations.

you know that as a government, every time you decide unilaterally to 'help us' you in fact commit genocide upon us. how many times will you not listen to our pleas for direct communication with our elders in council on the best and only way forward for proper assistance to happen as we move forward together, and i repeat that, together. treat us with the respect you would consider for yourselves. we are not, historically, culturally, socially or in any other sense of the word, your inferiors. we as a non-subjugated people demand that we be treated as your full equals to negotiate on where we are going and where we will finish up.

dismantle the nter now and scrap any plans to extend such a criminal process. we are ready to sit with you on our lands. yes we have poverty and other social problems, we admit readily to that, but we know from whence the problem comes and what is required to solve those problems

please. listen to us. our elders in council and our communities.

fkj

ray jackson

president

indigenous social justice association