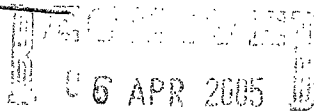


Submission No. 4

Date Received 6/4/05

STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER  
AFFAIRS

To - Cheryl Scarlett,



Date - 4/4/2005

Dear Cheryl,

Thank You for your letter concerning positive outcomes for Aboriginal Employment here in Australia.

At Judda Boomerangs here in Dubbo we are able to employ up to 1-2 Aboriginal people at any one time in addition to sustaining our own family financially.

My thoughts go to Gordon Estate in Dubbo where we have a suburb that is both socially and economically in trouble. The people are impoverished and this is part of the reason for high crime figures in the area. The other is bad memories associated with certain houses so this is why the Aboriginal People burn them down in Gordon Estate. Substance abuse is also a contributing Factor.

I think in light of the call Councillor Rod Touny has made for a holding place for Aboriginal Artifacts here in Dubbo this could be successfully done by building a holding place at Gordon Estate. In addition to an Industrial Estate and smallish commercial centre. \$1 Million invested into the Gordon Estate would do more for the Aboriginal people who live there than to spend the money on a holding place at Bundeboomal in Dubbo because it is ~~such~~ just not accessible by the majority of Aboriginal people who do not have transport or licenses and Public Transport Services here in Dubbo are border-line.

It makes more practical sense for the government

to focus on Gordon Estate as the primary area of a high concentration of Aboriginal people who live there and are un-employed.

Recently, the local council has invested resources into improving the Parks in the area.

There needs to be an education, perhaps education Boards constructed in the area that enlightens Aboriginal people about not burning down houses because of a bad experience or memory they have had there. They associate it with Evil Spirits. But as Non-Indigenous people we are very aware of the high cost of replacing houses and the destruction caused by Arson. And that indeed it is an offence to commit such acts.

Also, instilling a sense of pride into the neighbourhood by being constructive rather than destructive has its own rewards.

I think positive outcomes can be identified by more activity and involvement by the Residents of Gordon Estate in their own area and Community.

I think additional building and improvements to the Gordon Centre would send out very positive signals.

Also, building two net-free Tennis Courts for the Youth (is a detailed plan). The local Council has improved street lighting and there has also been a call for some speed bumps in some parts of Gordon Estate to avert high car speed chases with the Police.

I hope this has been helpful.

Yours Sincerely MRS SCAYNESCHURER

Jedda. (FOR JEDDA BOOMERANGS - DUBBO)

**JEDDA BOOMERANGS**

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