

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2010-11 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 160

Topic: Healing Foundation

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Seiwert asked:

Why are the healing needs and aspirations of the Stolen Generations not included in the Healing Foundation Executive Summary under Scope?

Ref: *Voices from the campfires: Establishing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation*

http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/indigenous/pubs/healing/voices_campfire/Documents/HealingFoundationReport.pdf

Answer:

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation Ltd, is an independent, not-for-profit organisation established in 2009, to support community-based healing initiatives that address the traumatic legacy of colonisation, forced removals and other past government policies.

The report, *Voices from the campfires: Establishing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation*, was developed by an independent Development Team following a national consultation process, conducted from May to August 2009.

The *Voices from the Campfires* report proposed that a “National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation be established to address the transgenerational cycle of trauma and grief in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities as a result of colonisation, forced removals and other past government policies”.

Further on page 15 under section 3.4.2 - What Groups should the Foundation focus on? – it is clearly stated that those consulted were of the view Stolen Generations should be a focus of the Healing Foundation: “All agreed that the Foundation should address the unique needs of members of the Stolen Generations and their families as a fundamental part of its work” (page 15 *Voices from the campfires: Establishing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation*).