

The Secretary
Senate Community Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Email: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Secretary,

Re: Inquiry into Petrol Sniffing and Substance Abuse in Central Australia.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this Inquiry. I am pleased to provide comments based on over 30 years of Research of Sociology and Childhood Development as referenced by and to the sociological development of the adult society.

Many expect Life to be fair and reasonable based on equality using human intelligence. Little do they realise, humans as a species really aren't that intelligent.

Substance abuse or any anti-social occurrence can be wiped out in an instant, providing you have the policing numbers to enforce it, each and every time it looks like happening. Slaves in the cotton fields of the USA were once treated this way; its outcome was very effective; immoral, unethical, cruel, cold and callous; but effective. Many children are still treated in a similar manner today by standover parents. There is absolutely no question that this way works and why so many people insist on using it.

The standover (policing) method of enforcing laws still hold all the draw backs of the Educational Method, the high level of policing numbers must be kept in place for a minimum of 2 to 3 generations (50 to 75 years) which is the time it takes for the generation which held the anti-social behaviour, to loose its influence over the younger generation. Even then, if the base root cause of the anti-social behaviour isn't cured and dealt with in a proper manner, the anti-social behaviour will just redevelop and regenerate. This is clearly evident in mainstream Australian society with things like equal rights for women. This battle is still going on and women and children are still being abused and used even though there are laws and policing against it.

Education and Training is by far the slower method when compared to the standover, bullying tactics of the policing method, albeit both will take approximately 2 to 3 generations to control the problem at a sustainable level. The main reason for this being, what is taught in the classroom or by policing methods, will be undone in the playground or when the police have turned their backs or the policing levels are removed.

Unlike conventional education where the student is either learning something new with no association knowledge to compare with in their general knowledge, or adding to previously stored knowledge along a specific association path, Social Education must replace existing knowledge with a knowledge often 180 degrees out of phase (contrary) to the currently held association pattern and make the new knowledge the greatest influence within the brain. Depending on how far out of phase the new knowledge is, will determine how hard the brain will fight against accepting the new knowledge as the greater knowledge. A person whose current knowledge is the full 180 degrees out of phase with the new knowledge will totally reject the new knowledge as rubbish and garbage and fight just as hard to keep their old knowledge as those who fight to replace it, they will be diametrically opposed and mirror imaged to each other.

I find nothing wrong per se with the eight point plan and 23 base recommendations as proposed in the "Beyond Petrol Sniffing: Renewing Hope for Indigenous Communities." It is a workable plan and given enough time will bear fruit. The main problem I have with it is we are talking about children. We don't have time. The next problem I have with it is that the longer the anti-social behaviour goes on and the more publicity it gets the more animosity it will generate towards indigenous Australians by the mainstream.

The quickest solution has long since passed us. That was, nip it in the bud before it got started. What we have now is trying to shut the gate after the horse has bolted and an entire new ball game. The base strategy I would propose is a combination of both the Policing and Educational methods as it pertains to Dreamtime Lore whilst remaining in the guidelines of Australian Law and human decency. The short term objective of the strategy would be a self reliant, self sufficient people with a restored pride in their heritage and culture. The mid term objective; to regenerate the Australian Aboriginal Educational method so that the new teachings continually pass from generation to generation. The longer term objective; to repair the damage done to the Indigenous image as it pertains to mainstream Australian perception.

Will every child be saved?..... I am sorry to say the answer to that question would be no. Some children are too far gone to be saved; this doesn't mean they will be left behind. It will take approximately 6 months to transform each community, basically because they already know the knowledge, they only have to relearn it. By 6 months the community should be teaching themselves and by 12 months should be ready to teach other communities in the same manner as they were taught.

In order to achieve this outcome, the following tools would be needed:

- A team of 40 soldiers, preferably of Indigenous heritage and, if at all possible consisting of a mixed trade background.
- Failing the armed services personnel being trade qualified, a mixture of tradespeople would be needed.
- 4 Teachers, 2 Female and 2 Male, preferably of indigenous heritage.
- 10 young indigenous actors (male/female 16-18) years of age (substance abuse free.)
- Transport, meals and portable accommodation for the above staff.
- Supplies of building materials, associated tools and PPE.
- Cameras and surveillance equipment.

In order to fulfil the outcome of this prophecy the following laws must be changed:

- The armed services personnel must have police powers and authority for the duration of the exercise or additional police officers would be needed.
- The laws pertaining to a child's working age must be removed.
- The Education Laws must be amended.

In order to break a habit, a new habit must be created in place of the habit which is taken away. Just like with knowledge previously spoken of, the new habit must be seen as the greater habit by the brain of the person with the habit which needs to be broken. Failure to achieve this will just see the person with the habit resort to the status quo.

Little value will be had by just attacking the children's bad habits. In order to properly deal with this issue, the bad habits in the adults must be dealt with in the same time frame. For any strategy to work successfully it must be led by the adults of the community: else the adults will turn the teaching around. Fortunately, the Australian Aboriginal teachings hold the key to this. From a sociological perspective it is clearly understood, that Dreamtime Lore worked well for thousands of years until the Anglo-Saxon taught the Indigenous Australians better ideals. If implemented correctly, the time is ripe to turn the people around.

If you would like to discuss my plan and strategy in greater detail, I would be happy to discuss the matter with you in greater detail. If not, I wish you well in any endeavour you undertake and will live in hope that it is successful, after all, it is children's lives which you are dealing with.

Do not be too hasty in dismissing Dreamtime Teaching; don't let your own intelligence stop you from learning. What we are taught in schools pertaining to Australian Aboriginal heritage isn't necessarily so, it all depends on the perspective which it is looked upon.

Yours Sincerely,

Allan King