



27th July, 2004

The Secretary,  
Senate Select Committee on the  
Administration of Indigenous Affairs,  
Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600

Sir,

I appreciate the opportunity to offer my opinion on the abolition of ATSIC and the proposal to administer through various Government Departments. What a giant step backwards!

Can anything be more disheartening for a person, particularly an adult, to be denied control of their life? To always have to ask, to have to receive permission, to have to wait upon an "authority" to decide? To be dependent throughout life?

I thought it was the right of all people in Australia to use their initiative, to "have a go", to "make something of oneself", to build a community - proud, caring and active!

ATSIC has had its problems - so has the Federal Parliament! Do we disband it too in favour of a system where we all say "Please Sir, Yes Sir, No Sir, When you're ready Sir"?

To deny human rights to self development is to cripple. It runs in direct contravention of all that is decent.

Indigenous people are saying "Listen to what we have to say!"

If this is a democracy, in the name of humanity, give the indigenous people a fair go and let them have their say.

Yours faithfully,

(Mrs) Roslyn Bull.

Copy: Phillip Baressi MHR  
Member for Deakin.

**R. S. BULL**  
28 GREENHILL ROAD  
BAYSWATER, VIC. 3153