

From: marg mchugh

Sent: Monday, 13 August 2007 3:27 PM

To: Web, Administrator (SEN)

Subject:

dear Senators, I would like to register my protest about the removal of they racial discrimination act, this is totally uncalled for and will not stop children being abused, everyone in the NT is happy for the government to take drastic action about alcohol and child abuse. However we are not happy about John Howard riding roughshod over aboriginal people as if they are all child abusers and therefore have no citizens rights. Since John Howard has been in power he has taken away ATSIC, has taken ASSPA the aboriginal education support group away and he has not put anything back in its place. We have to rely on the Myer Foundation to provide funds for basic programs in public schools. We have the Clontarff Program for indigenous boys and it is very good and a dance program funded by them, why doesn't the government put extra money into disadvantaged communities and schools across the country. The town camps in Alice Springs have not had a new house built in ten years and the government has been busy selling off public housing in Alice Springs. CDEP is a very good program it provides the only work for 8000 aboriginal people, he is going to punish the aboriginal people that have been working hard in the communities to provide services. Many schools and aged care facilities can't function without those workers. A lot of aboriginal people are going to suffer if they are not kept on in these positions many of whom are women who are trying to feed their families. The children will suffer more if those people are not kept on and paid the same wages as they are getting now. This legislation should be thought through very carefully or they will create more poverty and more child abuse.

margaret mchugh 11 sturt terrace Alice Springs