

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs
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**Submission to the Committee Secretary, Senate Standing Committees on
Community Affairs regarding Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill
2011 and two related bills**

Dear Committee Secretary,

I have always believed Australia to be a fair country with social justice and human rights protections, a dream country. After having watched Our Generation in Germany, I was shocked to discover that it is one of the most racist countries. It is hard for me to believe that a country like Australia, a Western democracy could have no proper human rights protections in its constitution to protect its people from human rights abuses as are occurring, especially for minority groups and above all for the first peoples of the land now called Australia.

It is difficult for me to understand how in this day and age, a country like Australia could behave so disrespectfully towards Aboriginal Peoples, in their attitude towards their culture and identity. This is such a deep disappointment to me and I am very disillusioned when I thought Australia was such a fair and just country. Hence I am taking the trouble to write this submission to the Senate Committee, because of this concern. I had never thought Australians to be hypocritical in their treatment of Aboriginal Peoples and had always held them in high regard.

Please do stop the Intervention in the Northern Territory and into the lives of Aboriginal Peoples in Australia. Instead I urge you to please listen to what Aboriginal Peoples needs and wishes are, to respect their culture and identity, their languages and customs. Please do walk with them in true and equal partnership.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Sincerely,

Monika Genau