

4 July 2007

Dear [candidate]

Addressing issues in indigenous communities

I am extremely concerned at the heavy-handed and short-sighted approach being imposed by the Federal government in Northern Territory indigenous communities.

This is a significant issue for me and in the upcoming Federal election I intend to vote to support policies and practices that work with Aboriginal people to create healthy communities which enable all people within them to live to their fullest potential.

I believe the actions that Howard government is taking are draconian, and punish all Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory for the abuses of a minority. This is an outrageous affront to the basic rights of all Australians. It is undemocratic both in ideology and method of implementation. The proposed four-year plan of Federal oversight channels money into enforcing control, which will reinforce cultures of dependence and paternalism, rather than putting money where it is needed, in community-based health and education improvements.

I am seeking a strong alternative to the draconian policies proposed by the Howard government that works with the existing Northern Territory administration and local indigenous communities to implement the recommendation of the 'Little Children are Sacred' report, rather than impose a separate Federal program.

Please let me know your position in relation to this issue so that I can make an informed vote.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[ADDRESS]