

To whom it may concern

**Submission on the Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill 2011**

Historically, Aboriginal policy has always adopted a heavy handed, paternalistic, top down approach. This approach has repeatedly failed to improve the lot of Aboriginal Australia, even if the policies have been well intentioned.

There is no “one size fits all”, and any successful approach to solving Aboriginal issues will necessarily involve culturally sensitive engagement with individual communities, and empowerment of those communities to solve their own issues.

The “INTERVENTION” is contrary to the needed approach, and a continuation of similar policies can only lead to a deepening of disempowerment and marginalisation of Aboriginal people and communities, as proven by history.

I did not vote for this.

kind regards

David Russell