

To the Senate Community Affairs Committee
Regarding the Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill 2011

I wish to make a submission to the Committee to express my opposition to the proposed Stronger Futures legislation.

My **name** is Sr Esmey Herscovitch

Firstly, it seems unfair that we have 2 days' notice re such a submission. Even if it had been somewhere in the public arena before now I imagine it was probably not public enough for all to be aware of it. Decisions of this nature require time and adequate consultation with the community at large and especially the Aboriginal communities concerned.

This is a very serious legislation and very serious listening needs to happen – I am too aware of the distress and struggle of the people of the N.T. to believe that such legislation would be productive in a positive way. I certainly do not see a stronger future as a result.

There is no point to a referendum re altering the Constitution if such legislation is being put forward,.

Esmey Herscovitch