

Michelle Hoogesteger

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Submission to the Senate Community Affairs Committee Inquiry into Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill 2011 and two related bills:

1) Stronger Futures In The Northern Territory (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2011, and

2) Social Security Legislation Amendment Bill 2011

I wish to indicate my total rejection of the Gillard Government's proposed "Stronger Futures" Bill 2011 that sets to continue and increase the punitive, racist measures of the Northern Territory Intervention.

This is a racist Bill and will worsen the already appalling living conditions and health of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in the Northern Territory. This Bill will further stigmatise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and increase the apartheid that already exists between black and white people in the Northern Territory. This legislation takes the rights of Aboriginal people back to the days of "ration cards" and Protection Boards and continues Australia's shameful treatment of the First People of this Nation.

Australia is known internationally for our shameful treatment toward Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and this "Stronger Futures" Bill 2011 will further disgrace this nation.

I will fight against this legislation and organise others to do so.

Sincerely,

Michelle Hoogesteger