

January 30, 2012

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

I am making this submission to express my strong opposition to the proposed Stronger Futures legislation.

I worked in a remote Central Australian Indigenous community both prior to and after the 2007 Federal Government Intervention. From my experience then and from discussion with members of that community who have lived with the effects of that strategy for the past five years, I feel impelled to write this submission to urge you to consider other, more consultative strategies which will lead to more positive and effective change. The introduction of this legislation will simply extend and exacerbate the disempowerment experienced by Indigenous communities and the resultant dysfunction prove even more costly in both social and economic terms.

Yours sincerely

Megan James