

**Submission on the Stronger Future in the Northern Territory Bill 2011.**

**To:-**

Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

**From:-**

Mr. Stanislaw Pelczynski and Ms. Barbara Pelczynska

Dear Committee,

We do strongly recommend that the Committee rejects the proposed Stronger Future in the Northern Territory Bill as it does not conform with the views and wishes of the communities consulted about it as well as those expressed in the Joint Statement, "Cooperation not Intervention – a call to a new direction in the Northern Territory"

We stress here that it is high time that the damage done by the intervention in disregarding the "Children are Sacred" Report's recommendations and suspending the Racial Discrimination Act, be addressed by fully reinstating the original Racial Discrimination Act and developing an alternative policy based on genuine consultation, community empowerment, respect of Aboriginal culture and land and languages, support for Homelands Movement as recommended in the March 1987 Report of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal affairs, "Return to Country, the Aboriginal Homelands Movement in Australia".

In other words, by a policy in line with the UN's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner's Social Justice Report, 2011, on lateral violence.

Finally we refer the Committee to Sarah Maddison's book "Beyond White Guild, the Real Challenge for Black White Relations in Australia" for an excellent exposition of the need for a change in the approach to policy making especially for interventions (see chapter 3 and 4), which includes criticism of the Northern Territory intervention.