

to the Senate Hearing on the proposed continuation of The NT Intervention

I write this submission to urge a roll back of the NT intervention which has disempowered and disenfranchised aboriginal people in the Northern Territory. Reports today on the high rates of suicide in young aboriginal territorians and the abysmally high rates of violence against women are evidence that the NT Intervention is simply not achieving the desired outcomes, that it has in fact only served to worsen matters for indigenous women and children.

School attendance has not improved and less remote students are graduating with an education that enables them to complete further study. Fathers who were doing the right thing by their children and by their community have felt persecuted and carers of family suffer the indignity of having to restrict their purchases of everyday needs to those establishments accepting the basics card.

The NT Intervention represents an unenlightened, sad and sorry chapter in the history of gov / indigenous relations and it need be brought to an end. Perhaps instead the government may try implement the recommendations, derived from community consultation and plainly set out in the Little Children are Sacred report.

sincerely

Bindi Isis