

I'm a proud young Kamilaroi woman, I'm privileged to be light skinned, but I feel very compelled to submit to this inquiry based on what I see and feel my people go through. In particular, the lack of accountability online, especially through social media sites like Facebook.

I could be viewing the happiest publication in the world about mob and without a single doubt the comment section will be overwhelming with racist comments that I have NEVER seen other communities deal with to such an extent.

There is news outlets that profit off of this and create "rage baiting" headlines. Everything is often worded in favour of racism towards Aboriginal people, an example being along the lines of "Do you think Aboriginals deserve to change Australia Day? React Angry Face emoji for no and love emoji for yes" which every single time is overflowing with the angry faces and racist comments, and worded in such a harsh unfavourable way, rather than for example "Should Australia consider changing Australia Day out of respect to Aboriginal people". I have seen many times news outlets using the term "Aboriginals" in a derogatory way, rather than "Aboriginal People". News outlets directly profit off of their wording luring in the angriest of racist people on the internet, enabling and normalising the behaviour. What these people have no fear in saying publicly with their Full Name, photo of themselves and workplace listed on their profile is INCREDIBLY concerning and shows a complete lack of accountability or consequence.

News outlets must have consequences for enabling and profiting off of this behaviour and must be trauma informed. It is the governments responsibility to reduce harm and promote a culture of safety. I would also encourage, while this is not solely an Aboriginal community issue, to consider Justine Spokes' movement of advocacy for the development of national trauma informed media legislation across all media platforms that enforce responsible media reporting on matters such as domestic family violence and sexual violence including homicide (which disproportionately affects Aboriginal women and people).

I am proud about my Aboriginal background and I show this online, and even as a light skinned person, I have had said to me for example "Prove you're abo with a DNA test ya fkn oxygen thief". That persons accounts were not banned or restricted for making such a comment online, there was no consequence.

I am disgusted by how freely and proudly racism is spread online and across social media, especially when completely uncalled for, unrelated, coming from people who are completely misunderstood about what it means to be Aboriginal, and when it is driven by news outlets and excused. There must be protection from this, there must be real consequences of

speaking in such a way. It is more than miserable to see our community so affected by this and seeing the deaths in custody rise, violence against Aboriginal women and children rise, racism and even TERRORISM this year, rise. Shame.

Thankyou.