

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Group: 2**

**Program: 1.1**

**Question: BE14/045**

**Senator Singh asked the following question at the hearing on 26-29 May 2014:**

Senator SINGH: Thank you for your answer. Professor Triggs, the government is ceasing the Commonwealth human rights education program from 1 July, I understand from the budget papers. Can you describe the initiatives currently funded by this program? Does it include the Racism, it stops with me campaign?

Prof. Triggs: I think I would have to take that one on notice because we, of course, run our own education program within the commission. Racism, it stops with me is one of our priority areas for education and simply running that national strategy. Insofar as the Commonwealth education program generally is concerned, I am actually not informed; so I would have to come back to you.

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

The Budget measure relates to funding of the human rights education grants under the former Government's Human Rights Framework: the Human Rights Framework – Education Grants programme. Since 2010-11, grants have been provided under the programme to community organisations to undertake grassroots human rights education projects. The programme has also supported three Australian Law Reform Commission inquiries during the 2013-2014 financial year: equal recognition before the law and legal capacity for people with disability; serious invasions of privacy in the digital era; and review of the *Native Title Act 1993*. The 'Racism, It stops with me' campaign is not funded under the grants programme.