

I'm Pilawuk from Ngangiwumerri Nation, NT, 150 South west of Darwin. My country is Ngambu Ngambu. My family are Traditional Owners living on or near the following communities: Daly River, Peppimenarti, Emu Point and many others. We have been drastically affected by the NT Intervention that truly was and is an invasion for us.

The NT Intervention laws are in breach of International laws. Since the Howard Government imposed the Intervention in 2007 it has only brought with it discrimination and destruction of Aboriginal reality. This is in breach of Australia's commitments under the *International Covenant on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination*. Our communities were working communities. We had many positive programmes and services. Since the invasion our communities began, many people have become depressed and felt disempowered. I cannot comprehend at the amount of power and control the government has over our lives today, 2010. We had this control in the past and it continues today. It makes me increasingly disturbed about the direction of politics in this.

The Australian story to date has been the constant denial of Aboriginal peoples rights. The NT Intervention is the latest of a series of violations of our human rights.

There are many concerns that I would like to speak about. I would like to emphasise my deep distress about the failure in the re-instatement of the Racial Discrimination Act. There are many implications, one major being that our ability to make rightful complaints is taken away from us, which is a huge deprivation of basic human rights. What can be done to hasten the re-reinstatement of the Racial Discrimination Act? Restore our rights as the 1st Peoples of this country.

Why is it that only three times in Australian history that the Racial Discrimination Act has been suspended, has been over Aboriginal issues? What does it say about the Racial Discrimination Act? Of all the races in Australia, how come, it's only Aboriginal people that get the Racial Discrimination Act suspended and not just once! Isn't it time we stopped discriminating against Aboriginal people?

STOP the NT Intervention-

Immediately Reinststate the Racial Discrimination Act
End the income quarantine-stop the national expansion.
Land rights, not leases.
Self determination, not assimilation.
Aboriginal controlled housing, jobs and services.

Racism is not a special measure!!!

Yours In Land, Language, Unity

Pilawuk White
Ngangiwumerri Nation, NT