

Submission to the Inquiry into the Appropriation (Northern Territory National Emergency Response) Bill (No. 2) 2007-2008

David T. Bath

Thankyou for the opportunity, however restricted, to make a submission to the inquiry reviewing the following bills:

- the Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Welfare Payment Reform) Bill 2007;
- the Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Northern Territory National Emergency Response and Other Measures) Bill 2007;
- the Appropriation (Northern Territory National Emergency Response) Bill (No. 1) 2007-2008; and
- the Appropriation (Northern Territory National Emergency Response) Bill (No. 2) 2007-2008.

In the extremely limited time available to comment on the the bills associated with this inquiry, I would urge the rejection of all bills and instead adopt of the recommendations of the [Anderson/Wild report](#) that seems to be used as a pretext for the inappropriate reaction of the Federal Government.

In particular, I found the review of the successes of the New Zealand reponse to similar problems (the *Te Piriti* and older *Kia Marama* programs) that result in a 5% reconviction rate. I am shocked that we are not seeking the expertise and lessons from the New Zealand experience.

I refer the senate to the following information about the New Zealand Programs

- [Kia Marama Special Treatment Unit "about us" sheet](#)
- [And there was light ... Evaluating the Kia Marama Treatment Programme](#) Bakker, Hudson, Wales & Riley (NZ Dept of Corrections, 2003): The study mentioned in the Anderson/Wild report.
- [Te Piriti Special Treatment Unit "about us" page](#)
- [Te Whakaotahitanga An evaluation of the Te Piriti program for child sex offenders in New Zealand](#), Nathan, Wilson and Hillman (New Zealand Dept of Corrections, ISBN 0-478-25250-1).

I fear the results from the proposed bills will only exacerbate problems, which would be used by the government (if returned) as an excuse for even more counterproductive actions.

David T. Bath