

SUBMISSION ON STOLEN WAGES

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It has given me both sadness and satisfaction in reading the submissions made to the committee. Those from Indigenous victims of government policies on stolen wages and other means by which legal entitlements were denied are grimly fascinating, but the resigned tone is as depressing as the stark facts they recount. These people are clearly victims of serious crime, albeit state conducted or state sanctioned, and based on their life experiences, they expect little justice.

In addition to the submissions by Indigenous people recounting their grim experiences, those that I wish to bring to the committee's attention are from people and groups that clearly have undertaken detailed research and are thus in a position to form views based on facts.

Those that deserve to be given detailed attention include the following-

Submission 11 Monash University's Castan Centre

Submission 58 Ms Christine Howes

Submission 20 Action for Aboriginal Rights

Submission 49 Dr Ros Kidd

These and many other submissions clearly believe that a national forum into stolen wages would have a net benefit and I concur with that view.

Tom Wolkenberg