

31 July 2020

Letter of Concern

Dear Parliamentary Committee

Ref: Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa (Torres Strait Islander Child Rearing Practice) Bill 2020

I am writing to you with great concern of cultural injustice in regards to Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa (Torres Strait Islander Child Rearing Practice) Bill 2020. We want the term "Kaziu Kazika" is ADDED to the bill so the "ka" in Kazika speakers feel included in the Bill. With that change we Torres Strait "Ka" in Kazika speakers will not be discriminated against.

Torres Strait Islander Language term was not discussed collectively. I am a Torres Strait Island elder woman, a fluent Mabuig language speaker. I am asking to include authenticity of language Mabuig language term "Kaziu Kazika" inclusive (Haddon, A. C., 1907, p.7. Volume III LINGUISTICS, REPORTS OF THE CAMBRIDGE ANTHROPOLOGICAL EXPEDITION TO TORRES STRAITS). Kaziu Kazika is the term used by Central Western Torres Strait Islanders from Mabuig and Badu islands.

"Kaziw Kazipa" term is a Saibai, Dauan and Boigu term used by three (3) islands which are really the Northern Torres Strait Islands.

The term "Kaziu Kazika" is used in total by seven (7) Torres Strait Communities language speakers they are in the Torres Strait Island language. These are Mabuig Island, Badu Island, 'Wag' Community St Paul's Community Moa Island, Iama Yam Island, Poruma Coconut Island, Warrber Sue Island, Masig Yorke Island.

For further information I can be contacted via email or phone: [REDACTED]

With thanks for your attention.

Your sincerely,



Solanima Mareko

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