



LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

HANDS ON PARLIAMENT –

**A PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT
ISLANDER PEOPLES' PARTICIPATION IN QUEENSLAND'S DEMOCRATIC PROCESS**

Feedback form

This feedback form can be used to make a submission. Alternatively, submissions may be made in another form such as a letter.

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BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

1. What are some of the reasons that Indigenous peoples are underrepresented in the Queensland Parliament?
2. What are some of the reasons that Indigenous people might choose not to be involved in Queensland's Parliament and government?
3. What factors make it difficult for Indigenous people to participate in Queensland's system of democracy?

The 3 questions above are asking for a history of
any conquered, thoroughly subjugated people.
There are books answering the questions: on
Australian aboriginals.

STRATEGY 1: ENHANCE PARTICIPATION IN THE EXISTING PROCESSES

4. Is more civics education and voter education targeted specifically to Indigenous people necessary?
5. What other strategies might promote greater participation by Indigenous people in the existing democratic process?

Possibly, to elect one Aboriginal person as a representative + adviser on Aboriginal affairs.

To be elected by Aboriginal + white, to be chosen by the same way, to be chosen from existing Aboriginal authorities.

STRATEGY 2: DIRECT INPUT INTO PARLIAMENT

6. Would avenues for bodies which represent Indigenous people to have direct input into Parliament enhance the participation of Indigenous peoples in the Parliament?
7. Is it a good idea to enable bodies which represent Indigenous peoples to have direct input into Parliament? Why or why not?
8. If a representative body with direct input into Parliament was to be established how should it operate? For example:
 - Who should be on the representative body?
 - What forms of direct input should the representative body have?
 - What else would be necessary to ensure Parliament considered matters raised by the representative body?

6. Possibly.

7. Hardly, too many individuals, too unwieldy.

8.3. The most important question. It is unlikely parliamentarians of today would give much time or allow Aboriginal ideas to interfere with their own.

STRATEGY 3: AN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ASSEMBLY

9. Would an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly contribute to the participation of Indigenous people in the democratic process in Queensland?
10. Is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly a good idea? Why or why not?
11. If an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly was to be established, how should it operate? For example:
 - How should members of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly be selected?
 - What would be the specific role and functions of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly?
 - How should the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly have input in the Queensland Parliament?
 - What else would be necessary to ensure the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly contributed to representation of Indigenous people?
 - Would one Assembly be appropriate, or should there be separate Assemblies for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders?

I don't believe more "Calmness bodies" are needed, they are always only taken.

STRATEGY 4: DEDICATED SEATS

12. Would dedicated seats enhance the participation of Indigenous people in the democratic process in Queensland?
13. Are dedicated seats a good idea? Why or why not?
14. If dedicated seats were to be introduced, how should they operate? For example:
 - How many dedicated seats should there be?
 - In what ways, if any, should the role and functions of members in dedicated seats differ from members in other seats?
 - How should members in dedicated seats be selected?
 - Should people who vote for members in dedicated seats also be able to vote for members in their general electorate?
15. Should there be a referendum about the introduction of dedicated seats?

This has been tried in other countries. You find this answer there where it has been tried.

If you are looking at the Sam or Norwegian minority, the state only helps when the general population is dedicated to better the Sam way of life in that country.

STRATEGY 5: CHANGES TO THE ELECTORAL PROCESS

16. Should Queensland's electoral system seek to achieve representation of minority groups in Queensland?
17. Should the electoral system be reviewed to ensure that it is the most effective electoral system to represent the diverse interests of the Queensland community?
18. Would a different electoral system be likely to ensure greater representation of Indigenous peoples?

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

19. What other strategies could be used to enhance the participation of Indigenous peoples in the democratic process in Queensland?
20. What strategies or combination of strategies would best achieve enhanced participation of Indigenous peoples in the democratic process in Queensland?

The best strategy at this point in time is to educate children in school, from the first grade on, in Aboriginal history.

Its great past of at least 40,000 years, its terrible decimation in being taken over by the British, and its hope through the children growing up through school for the future.

Aboriginals & their history should be the foundation on which
Winn Stinson a great nation is built.

8.2.03