

Tania Jackman

No 7

From:
Sent: Monday, 10 March 2003 2:47 PM
To: LCARC
Subject: Indigenous representation

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10 MAR 2003
LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW
COMMITTEE

Dear Committee

I'm writing to express my opinion regarding Indigenous representation in State Parliament, my suggestions are as follows

: Political parties should be selecting suitably qualified/experienced Indigenous people for "safe seats" As well as employing Indigenous people as party organisers so more of our people can be encouraged to play active roles in determining the political future for Queensland. We must be equal players.

: I do not believe in dedicated seats, this kind of "crap tokenism" is not a solution, it will infact cause more problems then it solves.

: Establishment of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Assembly is a complete joke, setting up such an entity would be the biggest slap in the face of Queensland's Indigenous people since the passing of the Protection Act! Imagine black fellas in suits shouting at each other in a Parliament type setting carrying on like our normal Parliamentarian do? Anyway, how would they be elected? What power would the Assembly have?.....I think it's just too stupid to comprehend!

: Having ATSIC and the ATIAB directly linked to Parliamentary process is workable and does provide for greater involvement by Indigenous people in Queensland. Maybe the ATIAB can be reconstituted as a Statutory Authority with greater powers to influence the policy approach of the Departments?

Just some suggestions and only MY opinion, please be considerate when you determine the destiny for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland, what you are considering as members of this Committee will effect the lives of my children and grandchildren, please don't set them up to fail!

Thank you for your time

Robert Blackley.

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