



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?

① Racism, Lack of info, Lower Literacy, Education levels,
Don't like Bureaucracy, Can't be bothered, No incentive
Black Community Politics, Lack of trust, Resentment,
• We are not one mob;

② Discrimination, Dealing with Mainstream, Different laws,

③ Education, Low, not able to read



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?

4. Yes

5. Education, Outreach



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 No

⑦ No why.

It would be better for Indigenous People to have a say
or a direct input to the different issues

⑧ Yes, but with the representative body or body
say what the people on the consultation panel
say, correctly.



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

⑨ Maybe - Maybe not; Better than nothing

⑩ Yes - Depends on Reps.

No - more Bad than Good

Weigh up Disadvantages & Advantages

⑪

- Elections: Land Council Members, Communities,
- Roles etc, Watch Dogs, like Singapore, Veto
- (Input to Parliament): Monthly Reports,
- (Change Members): 2yrs Term; Review every year.



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?

⑫ Would they help participation

Education 4

Advisory 3

Assembly 1

Dedicated 2

⑬ Good idea

Advantages & Disadvantages

⑭ How many seats + 20 seats for Indigenous People

Same Roles; Equal Status,

Selection; Area Reps, Votes, Black or White or both.

⑮ Referendum.



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?

①⑥ Yes.

①⑦ Yes.

①⑧ Yes.

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?

19. Education, more and more attending Parliament sitting or involving a school into an Adult Education on issues in Parliament, having the representative come to the schools or TAFE colleges and listen to what they have to say.

20. Education.

