

HEAR OUR VOICE POLICY STATEMENTS

INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Hear Our Voice believes that Indigenous Australians (Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders) should have equal rights, quality health and medical care and access to social and legal services, as are available to the wider community.

Hear Our Voice' vision for Australia is that it proudly recognizes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first Australians, and that we truly value their cultures and acknowledge their significance.

Hear Our Voice believes that traditional Aboriginal law should be part of the solution to combat alcohol and drug abuse and violence within Aboriginal communities.

Hear Our Voice believes that Australia should acknowledge the damage done in regard to the stolen generation, and we support programs and initiatives that help heal Aboriginal peoples and communities affected by past actions.

Hear Our Voice believes that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples should have equal life opportunities as other Australians.

Hear Our Voice supports reconciliation efforts which involve justice, recognition and healing, and we want to help all Australians understand the past and how previous events and actions affect the lives of Indigenous peoples today.

Hear Our Voice supports measures that will help address the disadvantage being experienced by Indigenous peoples in terms of health, employment, education and general opportunity.

Hear Our Voice is concerned that Indigenous cultures and languages are being lost, and we support initiatives that preserve indigenous culture and language.

Hear Our Voice believes that injustice, poverty and discrimination will persist until we respect Indigenous peoples cultures and understand their place within the modern Australia.

Hear Our Voice recognizes the distinct needs of Indigenous peoples, and we appreciate and tolerate the differences in cultures and values of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Through tolerance and understanding Hear Our Voice believes non-Indigenous Australians can forge a meaningful and lasting relationship with Australia's original land owners.

Hear Our Voice supports and embraces programs and initiatives that cultivate a culture of storytelling within Indigenous communities, and we are committed to bridging the gulf in understanding of non-Indigenous Australians.

Hear Our Voice believes that Indigenous peoples have an inherent right to protect and preserve their cultures, and we believe these cultures enrich the fabric of our nation.

Hear Our Voice believes in helping Indigenous Australians realize their identity and what it means to be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, and we support these peoples in achieving their full potential.

Hear Our Voice supports Indigenous peoples in their attempts to eliminate and heal their own violence, abuse and apathy, and we support their right to determine their own futures.

Hear Our Voice supports the effective engagement of Indigenous Australians in the development and implementation of government policy. We support the need for quality regional engagement, the identification and promotion of best practice models in service delivery, and the urgent need for capacity building initiatives to ensure the proper participation of Indigenous Australians in the policy making process.

Hear Our Voice believes that all Australian children should be taught about Indigenous peoples and their cultures, past and present. Hear Our Voice believes this should not be done on an ad hoc basis but rather these studies should be an important part of all school curriculums. Hear Our Voice believes that by teaching Australian children about our Indigenous peoples, future generations will be more tolerant and understanding toward Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their unique needs and circumstances.