

**Submission
No 37**

**INQUIRY INTO REPARATIONS FOR THE STOLEN
GENERATIONS IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Mr Duncan Marshall

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Having lived and worked for 20 years in Wagga Wagga district, in the heart of Wiradjuri country, we heard from many aboriginal people their stories of being "stolen" and dispossessed. We saw the effects: the emotional burden; the lost educational opportunities and hence lost job or economic opportunities; the family support totally removed and denied; the further generations of fostered children; the self-help of aboriginal people denied the services that the majority of citizens expect; the prejudice in administrations, Council, media and policing. We witnessed first-hand the attempted perverting of justice by malicious prosecution, following an aboriginal family's attempt to get police protection. We lived with the "heritage" of place names that proclaimed the land-seizure and destruction of the original people of this land - and saw who profited by that land seizure. We witnessed elected officials define society as "us" and "them", with intent to deny understanding and justice. Reparations for dispossession, and restoration of full citizen status are long overdue. There can be no peace without justice.