

Submission  
No 49

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date received:** 31/03/2016

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Partially Confidential

**COVER LETTER/SUMMARY**  
**INQUIRY INTO REPARATIONS FOR THE STOLEN GENERATION IN NSW 2016**

I have written an unfinished book. It was not originally intended for this current enquiry. It is an unfinished book. Some of the book may not be relevant to this enquiry and some of it will be, but no doubt, one will draw from it, their own inferences and deductions.

Firstly, to understand the story properly, you need to tell the whole story and not just in point form. Please only use this as a reference guide for my submission. I don't know where to start, but somewhere I must.

**IN SUMMARY**

My opinion is that aboriginal children should not ever be placed with all exclusively white families. I myself was raised by a white family and I ended up losing a sense of myself. I did not know who I was. I did not know I was aboriginal. I did not know that one day I would be accepted by my people as one of them. I had no sense of belonging and no sense of aboriginality. I had developed a white mindset and probably still harbour certain white attitudes to this day, which I should not. A lot of our attitudes develop from childhood and stay with us throughout our lives, if not changed.

My white foster parents were not forward and progressive in their thinking and they were racist. They did not encourage me to find out all about my people. They never allowed me to visit my people and they vilified all aboriginal people including my koori mother and all the rest of my aboriginal relatives.

If an Aboriginal person has no aboriginal stimulus, no aboriginal role models, no aboriginal dialogue to follow and no contact with their blood kin, one very quickly and all too easily loses their identity and loses a sense of self.

**OPINION**

Some of the attitudes and mindset of white Australia from the 1940s, 1950s, 60s and 70s regarding black Australia still prevail today in the current generations of today. Attitudes and mindsets get passed down from generation to generation to the children and grandchildren and so for this reason, it is not a good idea for aboriginal children to be put with white or non-aboriginal families.

Also - The rural city of Griffith has a severe mental health services problem. There is just not enough free counselling services. At the moment, a government psychiatrist visits Griffith twice a month and sometimes a patient has to wait three more months before he/she can get the next appointment. Griffith Base Hospital only has one mental health allocated bed in a population of over 50 000 people. It would also be advantageous to the koori community to see Griffith employ an aboriginal mental health nurse/liaison officer on call 24/7.

REGARDS,