

**Submission  
No 12**

**INQUIRY INTO HIGH LEVEL OF FIRST NATIONS  
PEOPLE IN CUSTODY AND OVERSIGHT AND REVIEW OF  
DEATHS IN CUSTODY**

**Name:** Mr William Kemp

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As my role as a youth worker in my local non-gov nfp organisation serving our local youth homelessness and otherwise vulnerable young people - I am regularly told stories of mistreatment and abuse by police and the regular targeting of the same young Aboriginal people. I am an experienced youth worker of more than 5 years and understand young people can exaggerate or lie etc however these accounts are not that.

I also observe this behaviour by police to target Aboriginal or otherwise people of colour when out in the community with these young people that I am supporting at our service. This mainly includes being followed when in public.

I observe as a local community much more stop and searches of people of colour than of white people - a HUGE difference.

I find it odd as a youth worker (and where I work which protects young people) that I must educate young Aboriginal people (and other people of colour) ON WAYS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM POLICE ABUSE (such as recording incidents and asking for officer names and station) RATHER THAN SEEKING OUT POLICE FOR HELP. It is a very sad place that those (the police) who should be there to help and support young Aboriginal people are actually feared by these young people - police attitude is to treat all people of colour as firstly criminals and engage in an aggressive and intimidating way and escalating situations by the effect they (police) have on these fearful young people - when there was no need for engagement in the first place.