

**Submission
No 17**

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

Name: Mrs Faikah Behardien

Date Received: 4 August 2020

I am deeply concerned about the over representation of Aboriginal people in our criminal justice system and the number of Aboriginal deaths in custody. I am also very deeply concerned about the incarceration of children as young as 10. As a parent and grandparent it is deeply disturbing that Australia is criminalising the actions of children so young. Surely other measures could be taken rather than incarceration. And again more than half the children incarcerated are Aboriginal. We know the latter severely impacts their chances of ever leading a normal life. This is a damning indictment on our country.