

**Submission
No 74**

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

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This submission is to indicate my concern that the Government and the justice system are not treating First Nations people appropriately. I am not offering any solutions, merely indicating the need to find and implement them urgently.

It appears that people of aboriginal descent are vastly over-represented in arrest and incarceration statistics. This may be due to overpolicing of Aboriginal communities and high levels of unnecessary contact with the criminal justice system. Are they being targeted and are they receiving harsher penalties than others?

Deaths in custody also appear excessive, and each one needs an independent investigation.