

NEW RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIANS

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Hassts's Bluff 1978-41years ago

Joseph, Ron Moroney, Malcolm Fraser

Working cattle station, yards, cut out bullock, castrate, brand

Fraser a white problem not a black problem

- The structures we have set up to solve this white problem in black communities are
- Socially
- Economically
- Culturally
- And geographically - separated and isolated from Aboriginal people

The "white" assumptions they embody are so embedded that they are invisible to those who carry them, including some indigenous people. They operate unacknowledged and unchallenged in almost every aspect of interaction, but certainly in relation to:

- Community government
- Education
- Health care
- Community infrastructure
- Welfare

They imply assimilation, despite talk of self-management

They imply a progression of school skills higher ed etc that is remote from hopes and expectations

Schools: Who is against them

But kids do not like schools so alien and unfriendly, and ill-adapted, not least by want of reciprocal relationships Don't like the way everyone managed and coerced with own priorities last

Don't like being pushed around

Don't like the stress and tumult of the white construct of the community

Don't like patterns of "consultation" and "engagement"

Don't like the ants

Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies - Dr Nosepeg

Getting knowledge of Aboriginal matters, languages, skull sizes etc "before it is too late"

We need An Aboriginal Institute of Australian Studies to get knowledge of whitefellas before it is too late

Different social structures and demography - lots of old people, fewer kids, disproportionate wealth, immunity from jail, immunity from accountability, responsibility

Different views of:

- Ownership
- Reciprocal obligation
- Social, cultural, economic and personal relationships
- Environment
- Cosmology, religion and respect
- Technology
- Behaviours
- Traditions
- Laws
- Values
- Knowledge

Treaty - much more a white than a black problem, but whites mostly ignorant, uninvolved, or seeming to think it something we should give/grant to Aborigines - not a charter of mutual respect

Whether in cities, in towns, in fringe camps or in settlements, only Aborigines can liberate themselves. At present they lack most of the material wherewithal to do it, except for what' s in their heads. Not on a path to better education, health, employment etc even on the white model.

Whether in cities, towns or in remote communities, only whites can liberate themselves. But they too lack the understanding, the wherewithal, and, most of the time the will. That's a chasm needing to be bridged.