





The Indigenous Child Health Working Group

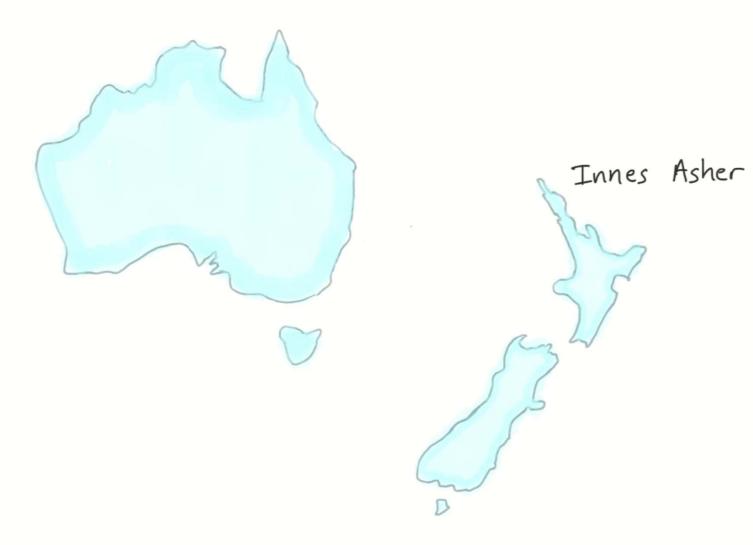
Why have a position statement?
Established by the Policy and Advocacy Division

RACP CONGRESS 2018 Sydney 14 - 16 May 2018













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What is the purpose of the Position Statement?

Summarise the current state of Indigenous children's health

Summarise the reasons why its different

Describe strategies, with evidence

Provide a resource for members

Set a vision of the future RACP

Be an example for others outside the college

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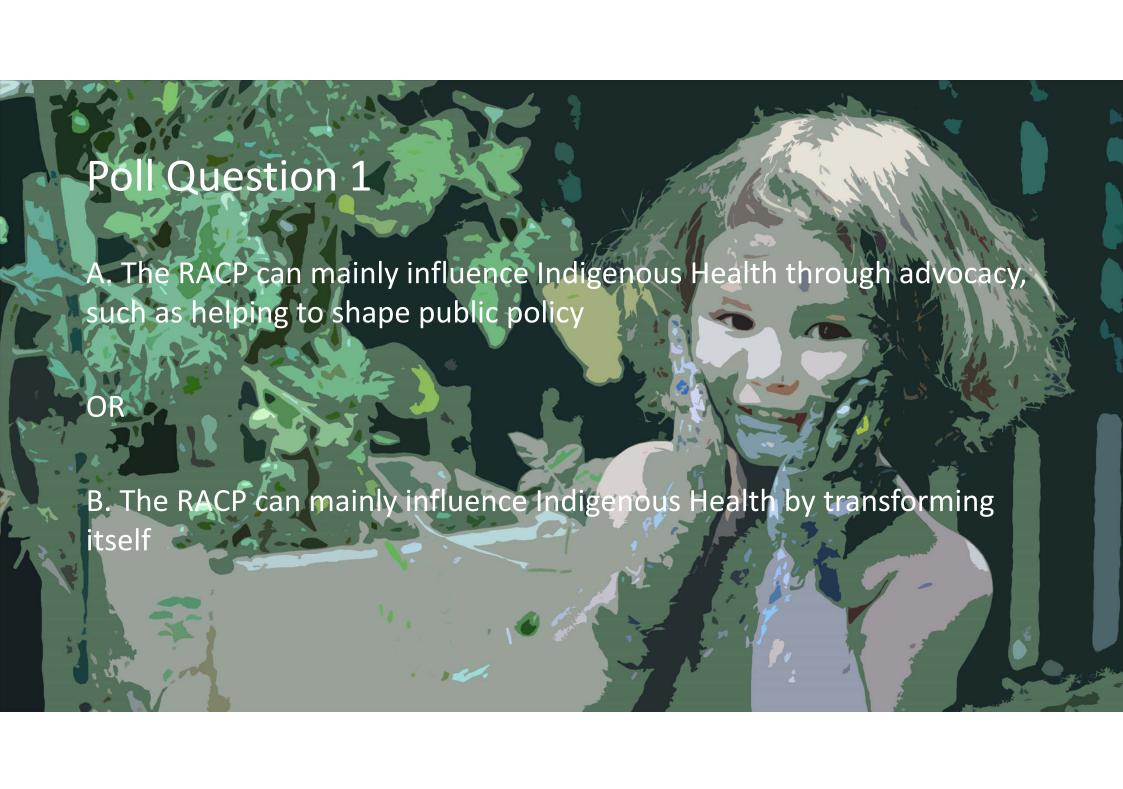
An outline of this session

We would like your help! Congress App

login is your registration email

password: racp18

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Indigenous Models of Health

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander concepts of health Connection to family, country, language and traditions The social, emotional and cultural well-being of the whole community



Indigenous Models of Health

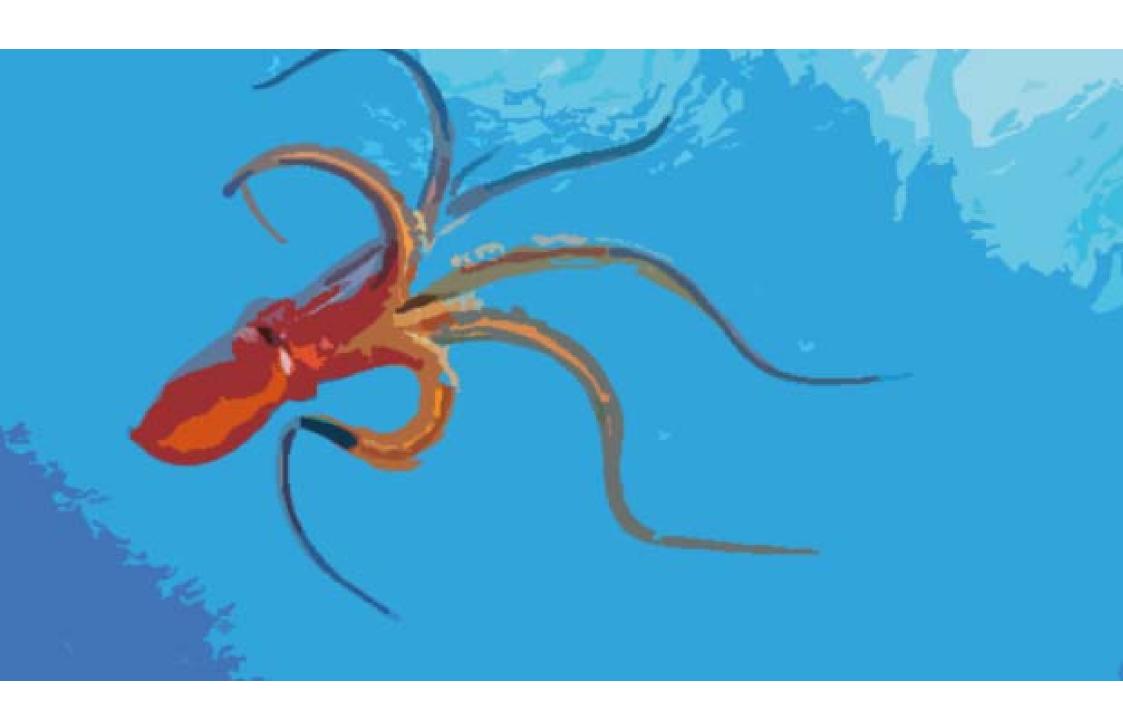
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander concepts of health:

- Focus on community over the individual
- Social and emotional wellbeing as part of health, including a connection to land and culture

Foundational principles in Indigenous Models of health:

- Person-Centred & Family Orientated understanding family and kinship structures, supporting a family's strengths, strengthen 'protective factors'
- Culturally Safe & Equitable Services- culturally safe practices are critical to ending disparate health outcomes, cultural safety is built through trust and long term relationships





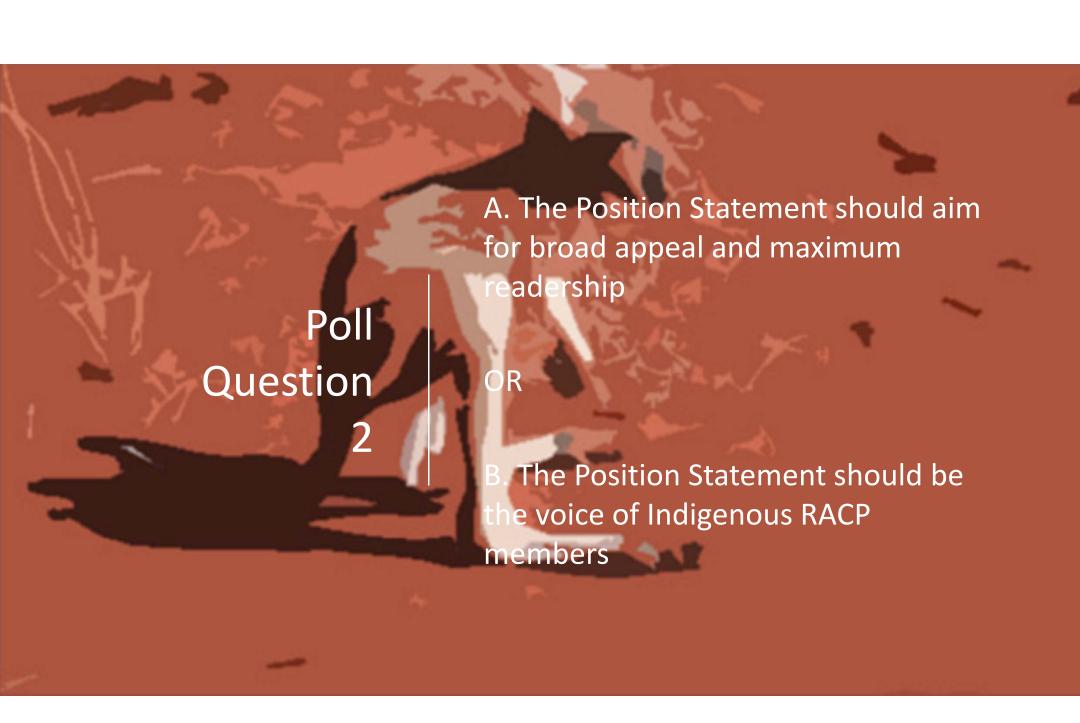


Indigenous Models of Health

... are normal models of health!

Extend beyond biology

Are not models where all responsibility is with the individual













The Current State of Indigenous Child Health

Overall burden of disease 2.3 times the disease burden of non-Indigenous people (Australian Human Rights Commission 2018, Closing the Gap 10 year review report)

Government health expenditure

\$1.38 per Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person

VS

\$1.00 per non-Indgenous person (2013-14)



Current status of Indigenous child Health in Australia

- Higher rates of
- Infant mortality
- Low birth weight
- Hospitalisations for respiratory disease
- Acute rheumatic fever
- Developmental vulnerability
- Disability
- OoHC
- Incarceration and juvenile detention
- Socioeconomic status



Current status of Indigenous Child Health in Australia Closing the Gap targets and 2016 report card



1 | Halve child mortality by 2018

Child mortality has fallen by 33% since 1998



2 | Ensuring 95% of Indigenous 4-year-olds are in preschool by 2025

The original target, to have all Indigenous 4-year olds in remote areas in preschool, expired in 2013, so this new target was set in its place. Baseline data for this new target will be available in March 2016



3 | Halve the gap in reading and numeracy by 2018

The target is on track to be met for four of the eight areas set out in the policy



4 | Halve the gap in school attendance by 2018

There has been little change in 2015 from the previous year in meeting this target



5 | Halve the gap in Year 12 attainment by 2020

There has been a 70% increase in the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in higher education courses



6 | Halve the employment gap by 2018

No progress has been made on this target since 2008



7 | Close the gap in life expectancy by 2031

On average, Indigenous men and women are likely to die 10 years earlier than other Australians



Current status of Indigenous children in Australia Closing the gap report 2018

Progress across states and territories

Progress against the targets for each state and territory varies and is summarised in Table 1, which indicates where targets are on track. More detailed analysis of progress in each of the target areas is found in the chapters of this report.

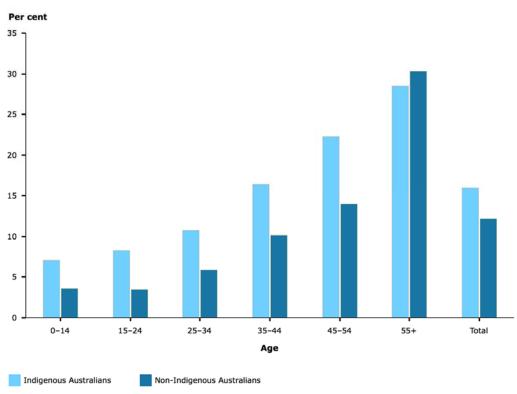
Table 1: Progress against the targets^a

Target	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	Aust/Total
Child mortality ^b									✓
Early childhood education	1	✓	1	1	1	✓		✓	1
School attendance									
Reading and numeracy ^c						√		✓	
Year 12 or equivalent attainment d				1	1		1	1	✓
Employment °	✓								
Life expectancy (proxy: mortality) ^f									



Otitis media and hearing loss

Prevalence of ear and hearing problems, by Indigenous status and age, 2012-13-measure 1.15





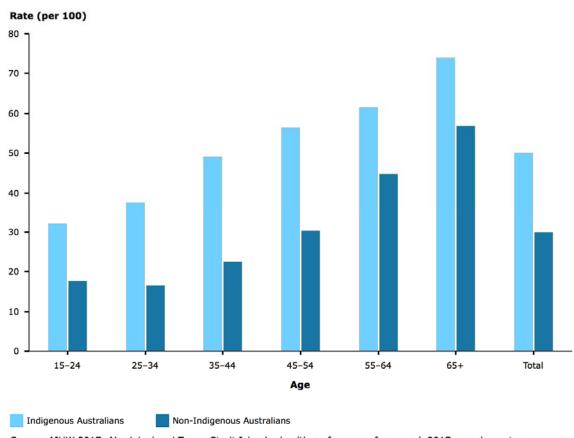
Developmental vulnerability: AEDC

- Percentage of children developmentally vulnerable in one or more domains
 - Indigenous 42.1%
 - Non-Indigenous 20.8%



Developmental delay and disability

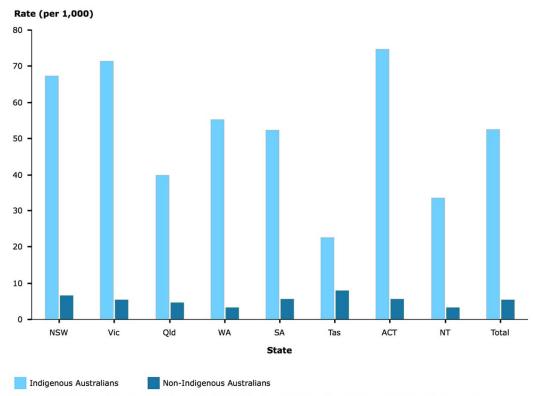
Reporting a disability or restrictive long-term health condition, by Indigenous status and age, 2014–15—measure 1.14





Child Protection and statutory out-of-home care

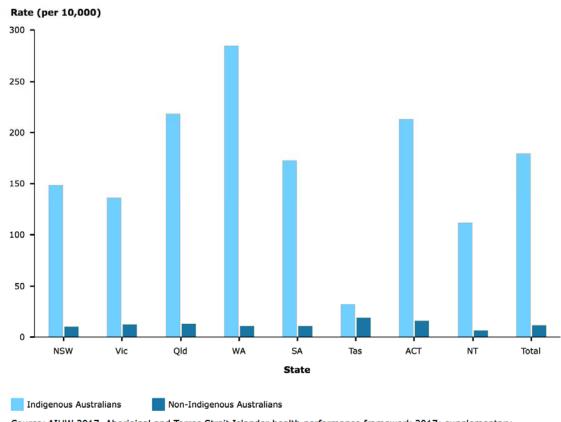
Children in out-of-home care, by Indigenous status and state, 30 June 2015—measure 2.12





Incarceration and Juvenile Detention

Youth justice (young people under supervision), by Indigenous status and state, 2014–15—measure 2.11





The Current State of Indigenous Child Health

The health of Māori children has been improving!

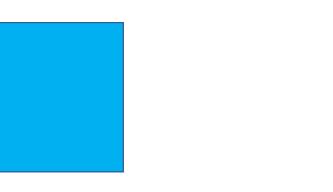


Infant mortality





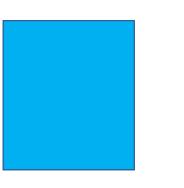
SUDI







Bronchiolitis







Pneumonia 0-24 year olds



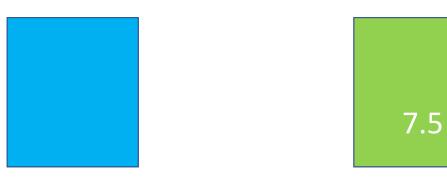


Asthma 0-24 year olds





Bronchiectasis 0-24 year olds





Pertussis < 1 year olds





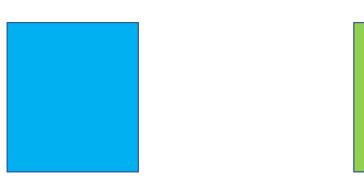
Meningococcal disease 0-24 year olds







Acute rheumatic fever 0-24 year olds





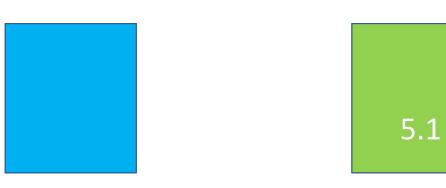


Any skin infections 0-24 years





Teenage births





Mental health hospitalisations 0-24 year olds





Suicide 0-24 year olds





- Historical factors
- Social determinants of health
 - "Inequities in health, avoidable health inequalities, arise because of the circumstances in which people grow, live, work and age, and the systems put into place to deal with illness. The conditions in which people live and die are in turn shaped by political, social and economic forces" (Nettleton, 2007)



The Cummeragunja Walk-off is the first-ever mass strike of Aboriginal people. Over 150 Aborigi people leave the station protest at the cruel treat-

World War II begins. Two

their families during the period 1939 to 1945, in-cluding children whose fathers are at war overseas.

1942

19-year old Len Waters becomes the first Aberigi-nal military pilot to be

1943

An Exemption Certificate frees certain Aboriginal people from reat/scrive legislation and entities them to vote, drink alcohol and more freely. Aboriginal people rafer to the derogatory certificates as 'stog faces'.

1939

Aboriginal military units are

Association declares a Day of Mourning, protesting against inequality, injustice, dispossession of land and protectionist policies.

1934

Under the Aborigines Act. Aboriginal people can apply to 'cease being Aboriginal' and have access to the same rights as 'whites'.

The Aberigines Act Amendment Act 1936 creates the Department o Native Affairs and makes

1925

Australian Aboriginal Progressive Association is formed in Sydney to oppose New South Wales Aborigines Protection Board. Its inaugural president is Fred Maynard

1918

The Northern Territory Aboriginal Ordinance A ensures that Aboriginal people cannot driek, possess or supply alcoho or methylated spirits, cannot some within two 'chains' of licensed prem-ises, have frearms, marn non-Aboriginal people with

1912

Roper River Aboriginal man Aya-1-Ga, known as Neightour, is awarded in prestigious Albert Medal by King George V after h saved Constable W F the first time that a gal1910

The Victorian Aborigines Act permits the Board for Protection of Aborigines to help half-castes by licens ing needy persons to live on stations.

The NT Aborigines
Protection Board Act is
passed, giving the Board
regal control over Aboriginal people on stations and
reserves but not missions. in the Northern Territory

1905

The Western Australia Abortigines Act is present making the Chief Protects the legal guardian of ever Albriginal and half-caste child under 16 years old. Atoriginal employment ar 1901

Federation: The Common-wealth Constitution does not count Aberiginal people nor does it legislate for them. This leaves the

Aboriginal people are excluded from the vote, pensions, employment in post offices, exlistment in armed forces and maternit

The government introduces the white Australia policy. Caucasian people from en-tering the country.

1903

Tasmanian Aboriginal woman Fanny Cochrane Smith is recorded singing in her native tongue, the first and only recording of Tasmania's Aboriginal

1940

The Aborigines Protection Board is replaced with the NSW Aborigines Weitlan Board. Responsibility for Aboriginal education is transferred to the Depart-

rity benefits are extended to Aboriginal people.

1937

Government introduces its assimilation policy: Aboriginal people of mixed descent are to be assimilated into white society; others are to stay or reserves. The policy leads to the destruction of Aboriginal identity and cuture, justification of disposeesion and the removal of Aboriginal

1938

The Aboriginal Progressive

The Methodist Overseas Mission forms Yirrkala, an Aboriginal community on the Gove Peninsula, North-em Territory. It is later taken over by the United Church in North Australia.

1935

1928

Conniston Massacre in the horiteen Territory, Europe-ans shoot 32 Aboriginal people after a European dingo trapper and a station owner are attacked by them. A court of inquiry rules the

Aboriginal people are re-fused legal aid by the fed-eral government.

1920

Aboriginal population is esti-mated to be at its lowest at. 60,000 - 70,000. It is widely believed to be a 'dyling race'. Most Australians have no contact with Ab-original people due to seg-posation and people of the

1914

Beginning of World War I.

1911

Aboriginal people serve in the war despite the Defence Act 1909 which prohibits any person not of 'substantially European' origin from serving. Aborigi-nal soldiers are among Australian troops at Gallipoti.

makes the Chief Protector the legal guardian of every Aborizinal and "half-caste" child. He also con-trols where the child fives. Any Aboriginal person can be forced onto a

Aboriginal history

1964

The NT Social Welfare Ordinance replaces the Welfare Ordinance, supposedly putting Aboriginal people on the same level as other Australians. It fails, leaving

training and housing.

1900 - 1969

1946

Aboriginal pastoral workers initials the Pilbara strike in WA over pay, conditions and ill treatment.

1948

The Commonwealth Citizenship and Nationally Act for the first time makes all Australians, including all Aberiginal people, Austra level they still suffer legal

1951

"Assimilation means, in practical terms, that it is ex-pected that all persons of Aboriginal birth or mixed blood in Australia will live like white Australians do."

1950 The portrait of Gwoya Jur The portest of Gwoya Jun-garai (ca. 1895-1965) of the Wartpin people, Gentral Australia, Sepecirs on Aus-tralian stampe. They become widely known as "One Pound Allemer," because when asked the prize of his artefacts for sale he always replied "One Pound".

1949

Aboriginal people are given the right to annot and vote at federal elections provided they are entitled to errol for state elections or have served in the armed forces.

1953

Atomic tests are con-ducted on Maralinga lands at Emu Field, South Austra la. They are code named Operation Totem. A black cloud passes and hundred: of families are forced to leave their homelands be lowed in 1956 (Operation Duffelo).

10 years after the Australia government declared the clean-up of Maralinga as completed (in 2001) estal continues to expose radio active waste repositores.

1962

The Commonwealth Elec-loral Act is amended to give franchise to all Aboriginal popule, extending the right to vote to Aborignal people in WA, QLD and the NT.

1963

The petition is presented to the Governor General William De L'Isle. Atthough it is aigned by very senior clan members, the federal government fails to recognise Aboriginal political struc

1965

Charles Perkins leads a freedom ride (frough rura NSW in support of Aborigi-nal rights, exposing the extent of discrimination against Abortainal people. Perkins becomes the first Abortainal university gradu-ste at University of Sydney

1966

Hill cattle station in the N owned by British aristocraf onotions and insequent wages. They demand the return of some of their tra-tional lands. This begins i seven-year fight by the Gurindji people to obta-title to their land.

tration Commission finds in favour of award wages for Aboriginal pastorst work-ers. The cattle industry reacts by phasing out Ab-

1967

In the Commonwealth 196 Referendum more than 90% vote to empower the

1909

The NSW Aborigines Pro-taction Act is invoduced following crises in public schools. Aboriginal schools are established in NSW. By 1940 there are 40 in NSW. The sylibbus stresses manual cribities. stresses manualactivities the reserve manager's wife

1968

Albert Namatjini become the first named Anniginal person honourer on a stomp. He was see the fir Aboriginal person to be accepted as a citizen of the

Office of Aboriginal Affelra is established and it 1972 becomes the Depart-

Lionel Rose berts bentam-weight Fighting ideracts in Tokys to become the first Aborgenal world casing champion, He gots on to receive the Australian of the Year award the same year.

CREATIVE SPIRITS

1957 The Federal Council for the Advancement of Aboriginats and Torres Strait Islanders (FCAATSI) is set up. The group plays a large part in bringing about the 1907 referendum.

National Aboriginal Day Observance Committee

Palm Island workforce strikes against unfai

Charles Perkins leads a

the federal government to legislate for Aboriginal propile in the states and share responsibility for Ab-original affairs with state governments. All states governments. All states except Queensland aban-don laws and policies that discriminate against Ab-original people. The first

in NSW is abolished. By allwing for the removal or Autriguas (tritien under the policy of 'protection', in the following years, Abergian and Islander Child Care Autrician (ACCA) are set up to con-ted removal explications and provided atternatives to the removal of Autrigual children from their families.



Australia's **Stolen Generations**

When?

1890s - 1970s

Aboriginal children were stolen from their families, creating the "Stolen Generations".

Who?

Mixed descent children

Mainly children of mixed descent, i.e. where one parent was Aboriginal, were taken

What happened to them?

Used as cheap labour

Raised on missions or by foster parents, without education, girls were trained to be domestic servants, the boys to be stockmen. Many were physically, emotionally and sexually abused.



1 in 6

Girls ran away.

1 in 11

Girls became pregnant while apprenticed.



1 in 12 Girls died.

Government spendings

\$80m

\$0.5m

\$80 million was spent on the surveillance of families and the removal of children compared with just \$500,000 on supporting the same impoverished families.

What were the effects?

Loss of identity Mistrusting everyone Internal guilt Substance and alcohol abuse Depression and other mental illnesses

Difficulties parenting Intergenerational trauma Violence Loss of cultural affiliation Loss of language



Stayed connected

In Victoria, only about 60% of Koorie children in care remained connected to their family and culture

33%

Lost all contact

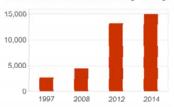
One-third of the Aboriginal children removed to non-Aboriginal homes have told the government they had lost all contact with family.

How many?

Tens of thousands

Australia-wide tens of thousands of children. Government estimates 10% of Aboriginal people aged over 25.

Even more are taken away today



The number of Aboriginal children living in out-of-home care is rising constantly. In 2008 it was 4 times the number of 1969.

8% of Aboriginal people aged 15 years and over were removed from their natural families in 2008.



Institutions (selection)

Parramatta Girls' Home 1887 - 1986 Bomaderry Children's Home 1908 - 1981

1920s - 1970

1911 - 1969 Cootamundra Girls' Home Kinchela Aboriginal Boys' Home



Healing

The hibiscus flower is a symbol for the Stolen Generations. It was chosen because its lilac colour denotes spiritual healing and compassion

Sorry Day



Apology



Historical factors

Charles Perkins

"we know we cannot live in the past but the past lives in us"



Historical factors

- Affect health in many ways
- Intergenerational trauma
- Neurobiology of trauma on the developing brain
- Epigenetics
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) study
- Legacy of ongoing inequities for Aboriginal people and impact on social determinants of health



The Social Determinants of Health

These inequalities in the conditions into which children are born, grown, live and work and age affect not only material resources and access to health care, but also their relationship to power structures and the control that they have over their lives. All of these factors have a direct and profound influence in health outcomes, mediated by complex processes that influence health along the life course.



The Social Determinants of Health

Overwhelming evidence is that inequalities in health are mirrored and caused by inequalities in society

All of these factors have a direct and profound influence in health outcomes, mediated by complex processes that influence health along the life course. The overwhelming evidence is that those with higher socioeconomic positions have better health outcomes on average, and that there is a gradient in the relationship between socioeconomic position and health



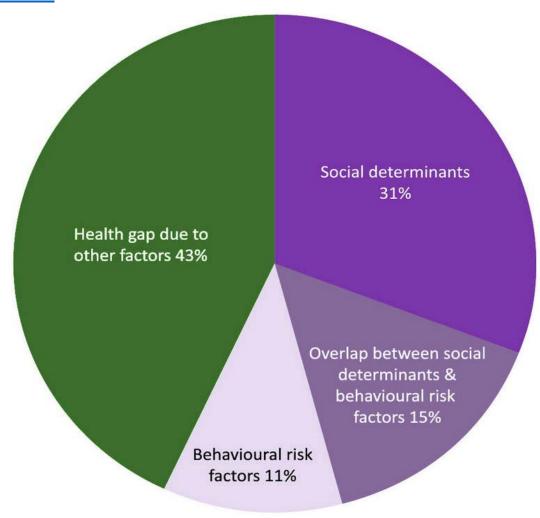
Social determinants and the health of Indigenous Australians

 Gap in social determinants: housing, economic position, overcrowding, education

- AIHW 2011-13 Health Survey:
 - This gap in social determinants accounted for ONE THIRD of the gap in health outcomes between Indigenous Australians and non-Indigenous Australians



Proportion of the health gap explained by social determinants and behavioural risk factors Source AIHW 2014





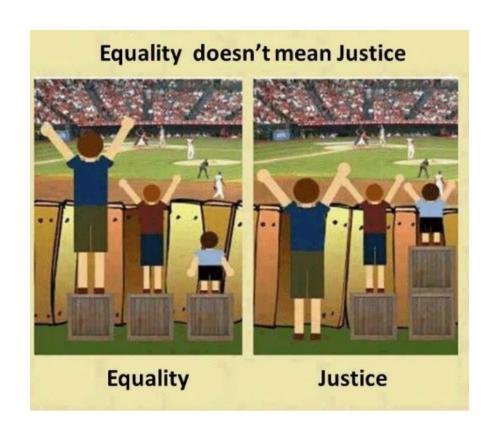
Social determinants of health

- Poverty
- Geography/ remoteness: health, education, housing
- Racism
- Access to health care
- Access to preventative health care
- Behavioural risk factors
- Trauma: direct impact on physical and emotional health



Health Systems and inequity
Equity and Equality









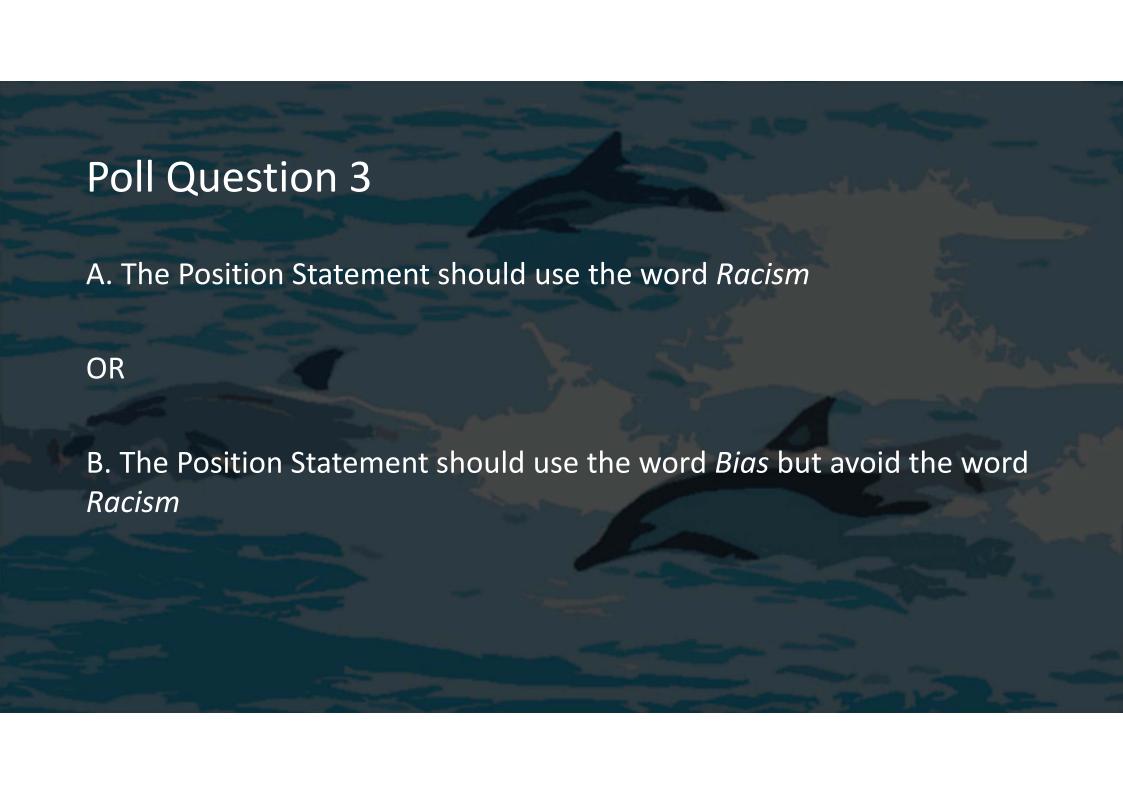


Health Systems

Equity and Equality

Bias

Poll





Health Systems

Equity and Equality

Bias

Racism

Privilege









RICHARD'S HOUSE IS WARM AND DRY.
HIS SHELVES ARE FULL OF BOOKS AND
HIS FRIDGE IS FULL OF FOOD.



PAULA'S HOUSE IS FULL OF PEOPLE AND NOT MUCH ELSE. IT'S DAMP AND NOISY AND SHE KEEPS GETTING SICK.







RICHARD GOES TO A GREAT SCHOOL.

WELL RESOURCED, GOOD KIDS.

HIS TEACHERS LOVE THEIR JOB.



AT PAULA'S SCHOOL, THE CLASS SIZES ARE LARGE, THE SCHOOL IS UNDERFUNDED, AND LOOKS IT. HER TEACHERS ARE TIRED, STRETCHED THIN FROM THE STRESS.

























FURTHER READING : LOOK UP AUCKLAND CITY MISSION'S 'SPEAKING FOR OURSELVES' BOOKLET



Health systems

Equity and Equality

Bias

Institutional Racism

Privilege

Colonisation

Individualism



OR

Question

B. Should NOT be a mandatory component of my CPD



Indigenous Rights

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of the Child

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Treaty of Waitangi

New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000

Update about Australian constitution and treaty

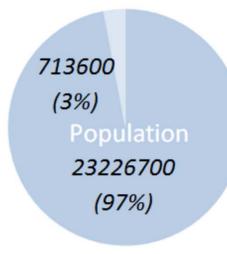
Poll Question 5

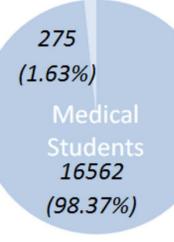
A. The basic trainee selection process should have a pathway for Indigenous doctors

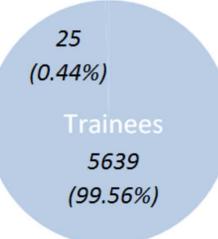
OR

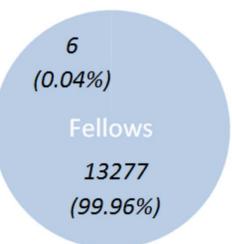
B. The basic trainee selection process shouldn't distinguish between indigenous and non-indigenous doctors

Australia

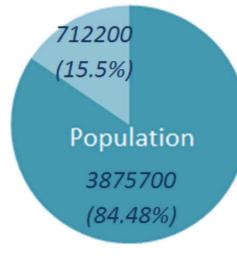


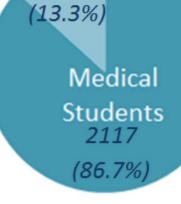






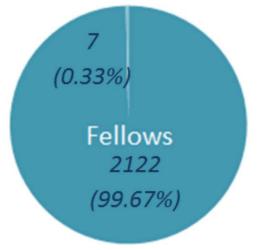
New Zealand





325







Approaches to Indigenous Child Health

Culture and Healthcare

Addressing racism

Reverse the effects of colonisation

Indigenous Health by Indigenous People

A social justice model



What the RACP will do

AMC/NZMC accreditation requirements

Indigenous Strategic Framework

Develop a physician workforce that mirrors the population we serve

Advocacy

Research

Monitor effectiveness of the initiatives



What Paediatricians and Trainees can do

Form relationships with Indigenous people and organisations Keep learning about the Indigenous cultures of their country Keep learning about the history of their country Be able to discuss and teach Indigenous Health in day-to-day work

Look for bias and racism and act against it



Summary

The health of Indigenous children can improve
The social determinants of health are important...
... But are only part of the explanation
We've discussed the causes of inequity
Inequities are preventable and correctable
Paediatricians can have a major role

