

Voice Secretariat  
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CANBERRA ACT 2601

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To the Voice Secretariat,

I am a non-Indigenous person in full support of the Uluru Statement From the Heart, and enshrining the Voice to Parliament in the Constitution.

I was five years old when my dad took me to the ANTaR Sea of Hands demonstration in Canberra in 1997. My dad kept the photo of me on his wall for years. I believe he kept it on his wall because it was a representation of the kind of Australia he wanted for his child – an Australia properly reconciled.

I am now 28 and I see that we still do not have an Australia reconciled; not even close. I see that our indigenous population is still deeply hurting. I see it every week on social media and in the news. How can we accept this?

I understand that's its not been easy to work out how to move forward. However, the Uluru Statement is an incredible process and piece of work that the Indigenous community has completed, and we owe it to them to respect that hard work and now, finally, get it done.

That's why I would like the opportunity to vote yes on enshrining a Voice to Parliament in our constitution. I can see only good coming from enshrining the Voice to Parliament. Where's the harm in listening? Where's the harm in ensuring future generations continue to listen? There is none. There is only harm if we continue to ignore the voices and needs of Indigenous Australians.

So I ask the Australian Government to honour it's election promise for a referendum to enshrine the Voice. This referendum should be held before enabling legislation for the Voice is passed. I would also like to express my support for a membership model that ensures previously unheard Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have the same chance of being selected as established leadership figures.

Thank you for this opportunity to respond to the Interim Voice Report on the co-design of a First Nations Voice.

Yours sincerely,

