

My name is Rosie Falengala Nunu and I am a proud Greek-Solomon Islander who was born in Port Lincoln on the Eyre Peninsula, South Australia, the traditional home to the Barngarla, Nauo and Wirangu. I work as a co-educator in a primary school on Kurna Country and am studying a Master of Teaching.

As a woman belonging to a minority group, I support the Uluru Statement from the Heart because my ancestors were also severely mistreated by those who colonised Australia - *blackbirded* from the Pacific to work on plantations. This has manifested into intergenerational trauma which is also seen amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. I empathise with the struggle of First Nations people and believe their Voice deserves to be heard and respected.

First Nations people must be able to exercise their human rights and have an enshrined Voice in the Constitution. To have a Voice in parliament will reshape the structure of our political system which has allowed for racial discrimination and oppression to occur. Changing the power imbalance will be for the betterment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in Australia who have experienced racism for generations.

Voice representatives must be First Nations people because they are currently excluded from important conversation. One need only look at incarceration rates and the educational and health outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to know there is systemic racism in this country and this needs to change. I am in favour of the following points:

The Government must honour its commitment to a referendum once a model for the Voice has been settled to ensure that a First Nations Voice to Parliament is protected by the Constitution.

Enabling legislation for the Voice must be passed after a referendum has been held in the next term of Parliament.

The membership model for the National Voice must ensure previously unheard Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have the same chance of being selected as established leadership figures.

I continue to walk with First Nations people and support constitutional reforms to empower them to take their rightful place in their own country.

Yours Sincerely,

Rosie Falengala Nunu