

no more broken promises its time to break the intervention

On February 13, 2010 there will be a national day of action against the Northern Territory Intervention and for Aboriginal rights.

This will mark the 2nd anniversary of the Apology to the Stolen Generations, when Prime Minister Rudd committed the government to, "a future where this Parliament resolves that the injustices of the past must never, never happen again".

But ongoing NT Intervention policies reek of the same paternalism and commitment to assimilation that created the Stolen Generations.

The Intervention has been a \$1.5 billion disaster. The government has taken control of Aboriginal lives and land - but has not yet built a single house. Shamefully, communities will not receive housing until they sign 40-year leases over their land. This policy is expanding nationally.

The income quarantine is leading to greater poverty and social dislocation. Government statistics show reports of domestic violence is up 61%, substance abuse up 77% and 13% more infants have been hospitalised for malnutrition.

Minister Macklin has said the suspension of the Racial Discrimination Act has "denied dignity" to Aboriginal people. But her changes to Intervention legislation will see the RDA suspended until December 31, 2010.

Rather than do away with failing policy, compulsory welfare quarantining is being extended to "areas of disadvantage" around the country. Compulsory acquisition of Aboriginal land and draconian police powers have been rebadged "special measures" under the RDA.

racism is not a special measure

The demonisation of Aboriginal people at the core of the Intervention is leading to increased racism across Australia. Indigenous Incarceration rates have risen 10% in the past year. Juvenile detention now stands at 30 times the national average and Aboriginal organisations face aggressive mainstreaming.

Aboriginal people have consistently demanded an end to the NT Intervention measures and resistance is growing. Turning around the unacceptable disadvantage facing Aboriginal people requires massive increases in resourcing of community controlled organisations- not more racist laws.

demands for the february 13 protest are:

Stop the NT Intervention – Sorry means you won't do it again Immediately Reinstate the Racial Discrimination Act End the income quarantine- stop the national expansion Land rights, not leases Self-determination, not assimilation

Aboriginal controlled housing, jobs and services for all communities