

RACISM. IT STOPS WITH ME

September 2016

Welcome to our supporter update!

It's been a busy few months for *Racism. It Stops With Me*. Race Discrimination Commissioner, Dr Tim Soutphommasane and the team have continued to promote the campaign and the importance of taking a stand against racism. We encourage our supporters, both individuals and organisations, to continue to promote respectful relationships and take a strong stand against racism and negative stereotyping within your home, workplace and community.



Image: still from video explaining *Leading for Change a Blueprint of Cultural Diversity*

Australian Race Discrimination Commissioner Dr Tim Soutphommasane launched [Leading for Change: A blueprint for cultural diversity and inclusive leadership](#). The blueprint is a landmark study of the cultural composition of leadership within the ASX200, Federal Parliament, the Australian Public Service and universities.

Across business, politics, government and civil society no more than 5 per cent of senior leadership positions are held by people who have non-European cultural backgrounds. The blueprint recommends strategies such as stronger leadership, better data collection, the use of diversity targets, and improved training and professional development to increase cultural diversity at senior levels. Watch our fantastic [video](#) explaining the findings.

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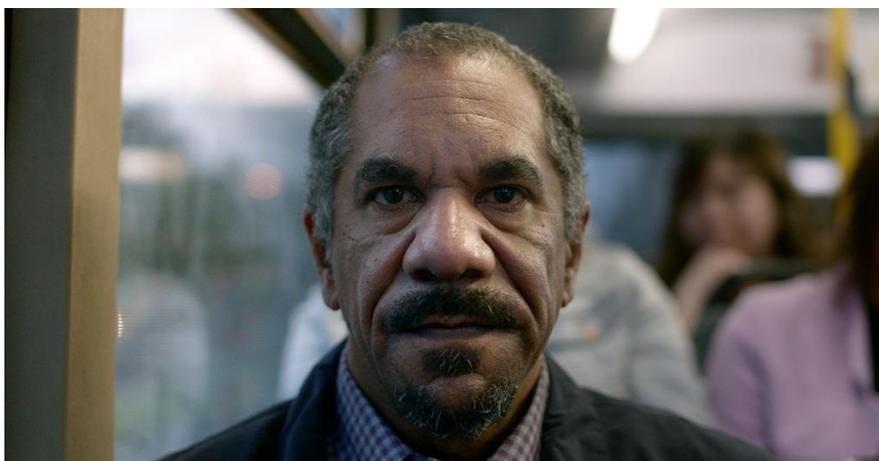


Image courtesy of beyondblue

Congratulations to Beyond Blue for their [Invisible Discriminator campaign](#) highlighting the impact of racism on the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

As well as powerful video content, there are some fantastic [resources](#) that can be used in schools and workplaces to respond to racism.

We have witnessed strong reactions to significant human rights abuses in juvenile detention in the Northern Territory. As Mick Gooda, former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner and Commissioner for the Royal Commission into the Detention of Children in the Northern Territory said:



Image: Commissioner Mick Gooda. supplied by Australian Human Rights Commission

“This is a hard day for me; it is a hard day for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and it’s a hard day for all Australians. It’s not OK for this to happen to any child in this country, be they Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal.”

We have three times as many Aboriginal people in custody now as we did 25 years ago when we had the Royal Commission in Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.”

We thank Mick for his ongoing advocacy for the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and wish him all the best as he takes on the significant role in the Royal Commission.

Supporter of the month: Congratulations to the **University of Technology Sydney** for being named supporter of the month!



The big Racism Stops at UTS photo with Vice Chancellor Attila Brungs. #diversityweekuts Photo by: Katia Sanfilippo

UTS continues to play leading role in the tertiary sector taking a strong stand against racism and promoting social inclusion through their leadership, teaching, community engagement and student welfare activities.

You can watch UTS students [talk](#) about *Racism. It Stops with Me* and the UTS Vice Chancellor, Professor Attila Brungs strong [statement](#) that Racism stops at UTS.

All supporters of the month receive a free pack of campaign merchandise.



Image: UTS Pacifika Society Students on board with the Racism stops at UTS campaign. Photo supplied by UTS Equity

Supporter activities

South Australian Attorney-General's Department Hosts Event: *Dorinda Hafner presents Racism. It Stops With Me*

The South Australian Attorney-General's Department (AGD) held an event in support of its commitment to the AHRC's *Racism. It Stops with Me* campaign. AGD engaged TV celebrity chef, actor, business woman and best-selling author, Dorinda Hafner, to speak about the campaign as well as her personal experiences with racism; the impact racism has had on her life, how she dealt with this and the support she received.

Approximately 70 AGD employees attended the event. Dorinda's vibrancy and humour captured the audience, who took home key messages around the issue of racism.

Overall it was a great event which AGD hopes will continue to foster a culture where its employees are able to identify racism and have the confidence and tools to act appropriately when it does occur.



Image: Dorinda Hafner at Racism. It Stops with Me event. South Australia's Attorney General's Department

Upcoming Events

Diversity and Inclusion in Local Communities Short Course 24-25 November

This two-day course builds on the well-received Australian Human Rights Commission and Australian centre for Excellence in Local Government online resource [Building Social Cohesion in our Communities](#) to develop the capacity of local government staff and their partners around diversity and inclusion to build social cohesion locally. Enrolment information is available [here](#)

Human Rights Awards nominations are closing soon

The Human Rights Awards is the pinnacle of human rights recognition in Australia. Each year we are proud to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of individuals and organisations in promoting and protecting human rights and freedoms.

The 'Racism. It Stops with Me' Award recognizes the contribution of an organisation to reducing and preventing racism in Australia. Organisations can include community groups or businesses and they can be recognised for a range of anti-racism work including education and prevention.



Image: 2015 Human Rights Awards Finalists, Australian Human Rights Commission

The Commission encourages nominations from 'Racism. It Stops With Me' Supporters

Nominations [close 11 September 2016](#)

Race Discrimination Commissioner's Student Prize

The Race Discrimination Commissioner's Student Prize is an annual competition for school students aimed to promote research and discussion of racism among young people. The competition is open to students in Years 10 and 11 in an Australian school.

What do entrants need to do?

Entrants may write an essay (maximum 1,000 words) or record a speech (video or audio maximum 7 minutes).

Entrants must answer one of the following questions:

1. What role should the law play in Australian society's response to racism?
2. Ignorance is the root of racism. Discuss.
3. What challenges does racism pose to Australian society today?

Prize and judging

The winning student will be awarded a book voucher from Dymocks worth \$150. Their work will also be featured in the Commissioner's monthly newsletter.

The winning student's school will be awarded a book voucher from Dymocks worth \$500.

The best entry will be selected by the Race Discrimination Commissioner and the winner will be awarded their prize at the Annual Kep Enderby Memorial Lecture in Sydney in October 2016.

[For more information, please visit the Racism it Stops with Me website.](#)

Entries close on 17 September 2016

Supporter Welcome!

A big welcome to our new supporters, sports organisations include the [Access Community Services Australia South Asia Forum](#) and [Mandurah Taxis](#).

Thanks for taking positive steps to take a stand against racism and promote diversity and inclusion within your community. We look forward to involvement in the campaign.

Don't forget to tell us about any of the great activities you've been involved in to support the campaign!

Until next time!

The campaign team



Image: Race Discrimination Commissioner, Dr Tim Soutphommasane. Australian Human Rights Commission