

Parliamentary Paper  
No. 3/1977

The Parliament of the  
Commonwealth of Australia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

Report

Being a report that the Committee has  
been unable to complete its Inquiry

*Brought up and  
ordered to be printed 24 February 1977*

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Canberra 1977

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

MR P. M. RUDDOCK, M.P., *Chairman*

THE HON. L. R. JOHNSON, M.P., *Deputy Chairman*

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THE HON. W. C. WENTWORTH, M.P.

MR C. S. BOORMAN, *Clerk to the Committee*

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**STANDING COMMITTEE ON ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS**

1. On 1 December 1976 the following resolution was passed by the House of Representatives:
  - (1) That the following matter be referred to the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs: The health problems of Aboriginals with particular attention to—
    - (a) the prevalence of different types of disease suffered by Aboriginals and Aboriginal communities;
    - (b) the relationship between Aboriginal health and environmental, social and cultural factors;
    - (c) the effectiveness of existing health care programs for Aboriginals generally, and the adequacy of Western European-type health services to cope with the health problems of Aboriginals, and
    - (d) alternative methods of health care delivery that take account of Aboriginals' life styles, including camp situations.
  - (2) That the committee consider ways and means by which—
    - (a) persons with appropriate qualifications can be encouraged to assist Aboriginals achieve a better standard of health, and
    - (b) Aboriginals including traditional healers can participate in the development and delivery of health care services to their own communities, and in any modification of existing services.
  - (3) That the committee recommend possible courses of action.
2. The reference has been advertised and submissions have been received. It is envisaged that public hearings will commence in May 1977.
3. In view of the importance of the Inquiry it is recommended that the reference be given to the Committee by the House of Representatives in the new session of Parliament.

**P. M. RUDDOCK**  
*Chairman*

Parliament House  
Canberra, A.C.T.  
24 February 1977

