



stolen generation

The report of a 1997 national inquiry into the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders from their families reminded Australians of regrettable aspects of their history.

The removal of these children– the so-called "stolen generation"– undermined individual identity by destroying language, culture and relationships. This is producing devastating flow-on effects.

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The traumatic revelations of the inquiry disturb Seventh-day Adventists in Australia. We apologise to the "stolen generation" and offer our moral, emotional and spiritual support. We also express our regret, concern and sympathy to all who are suffering because of our country's actions.

Adventists aim to be faithful to the reconciling ministry of Jesus. One of our fundamental beliefs states: "In Christ we are a new creation; distinctions of race, culture, learning, and nationality . . . must not be divisive among us. We are all equal in Christ, who by one Spirit has bonded us into one fellowship with Him and with one another; we are to serve and be served without partiality or reservation."

We pray Jesus will bring healing to those who hurt and are still grieving the loss of family.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia released a statement on the stolen generation in 1998.
Visit www.adventist.org.au to read the full statement.



...people with hope!

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