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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that this publication may contain images of deceased persons.

EDITORIAL

Many Australians watched on in horror from their living rooms as the ABC's *Four Corners* program revealed systemic abuse suffered by children as young as ten years old in juvenile detention centres in the Northern Territory. Of particular concern to Indigenous and non-Indigenous viewers alike was *Four Corners'* appalling footage which showed Aboriginal children being gassed, stripped and assaulted by staff at the Don Dale Youth Detention Centre. Old wounds were reopened via the screening of such cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment of Indigenous children – wounds not just relating to the pain and suffering of juveniles in detention, but to other issues impacting on Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this day. In this edition of the *Indigenous Law Bulletin*, we focus on several of those concerns which effect the lives of many people on both a local and national level.

With 2016 marking the 20-year anniversary since the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, the *Indigenous Law Bulletin* looks back into how Aboriginal women were considered by the RCIADIC two decades ago. Adrian Howe's paper 'Aboriginal Women in Custody'—which appeared in this publication in 1988—provides a stark reminder of just how little research was being conducted into Aboriginal women prisoners at the time. It may only surprise a few that, back then, the primary focus of the Royal Commission was Aboriginal men.

In this edition, we also hear from land claim lawyer Kirsty Howey, who reminds us that no land claim or native title claim can ever parallel Kenbi (Northern Territory) for the fierceness of contestation, nor the complexity of its issues. We thank Kirsty for reliving her experiences.

Elsewhere, after identifying federalism as a governance structure that binds and respects levels of autonomy of peoples existing at a local level to create and maintain another level of governance, Mark McMillan asks the question, via a brief look at South Australia and Victoria: is federalism being undermined in the current surge to 'recognise' Indigenous Australians?

The academic contents of this edition was compiled in its entirety by former editor Emma Rafferty. During her time in charge of the *Indigenous Law Bulletin*, Emma passionately upheld this publication's reputation as the definitive record of the issues and policies effecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the legal sphere. Emma, among the most skilled and respected book editors in Australia, is off to the Australian Writers' Guild. We wish her all the best and thank her for her expertise, advice and guidance during her time with us.

Editor