

Dear Prime Minister Turnbull,

I am horrified at the abuse of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls in detention, who are now 27 times more likely to be imprisoned than non-Indigenous girls. Girls are being subjected to the degrading and humiliating practices of forcible strip searches, sexual abuse, solitary confinement and inappropriate detention conditions. I call on you to:

- Stop the abuse of girls in detention;
- Show leadership on this national crisis; and
- Invest in Indigenous-led prevention and prison programs that empower girls to avoid or get out of the quicksand of the justice system.

Yours sincerely,

Reports have confirmed the abuse of girls in youth prisons right across Australia. Indigenous girls are vastly overrepresented in detention, and have often faced violence or disadvantage in their lives and discrimination based on their race and gender. **This is a national crisis which requires national leadership.**

Locking up more girls is not the way forward. There's a simple solution to keep girls strong in culture and community, and we need the Prime Minister to get behind it. We need a national plan of action to give girls a brighter future.

Australia: Stop the abuse of girls in prisons.



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