

MORATORIUM AGAINST RACISM

The Moratorium on Racism is a movement that recognises racism as something deeply seated in the hearts and minds of all Australian people, and therefore in the structures of Australian society.

In recognition of this, the Moratorium on Racism acknowledges that the people of its structure are as yet unaware of many of the problems and possible answers that exist, and yet by attempting to really listen to the black men and women who wish to speak to us, we hope to be able to assist them to build for themselves a Power base. A Power base that will enable them to affirm their blackness; their culture and heritage, their true humanity, and to move this to where it really affects us: the Legislation of white government, the education system and all the determining processes of Australian society.

When Black men and women cease turning in on themselves and direct their attention to their real enemy, the racism in us, then we will be in a better position to really understand what our racism is and what the aboriginals real blackness is.

HELP US TO ASSIST THE BLACKS OF OUR CITY TO BUILD THEIR POWER BASE.

The Moratorium on Racism's priorities are that first and foremost we think and act with regards to the Aboriginal people of Brisbane and other urban areas. Our attention will focus from this to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Affairs act of 1965 and the amendments to that act that are to come before Parliament in the near future, also the Black Power base in New Guinea and the Racism of the Vietnam war. The South African situation and Australia's Immigration policies will come within the ambit of our thinking and action.

The Moratorium on Racism sees its task at the moment to work in the ways of Public Forums, Seminars and Demonstrations. Besides this it sees its task also to work within the institutions of society. Work is commencing here in the Churches and Trade Unions at the moment. Other areas of work are being considered. Reduplication of work of long standing it is hoped will be avoided as we keep in touch with other organisations.

There will be two possible times for demonstrations to take place. These will be when amendments to the Affairs Act are being dealt with in Parliament, and when school recommences in the New Year. A big march through the streets of Brisbane led by aboriginals is envisaged for these times.

"I'm not a racist - I'll accept the Black man and woman just like I would anybody else - they have all the opportunities that we have and more - The Government is doing such a lot for the Aboriginal and Islander - there is no difference in the colour of a persons skin - with time and patience the aboriginal will find the place in society that is suitable."

"God forgive the Whites - they know not what they do. They kill our culture and heritage - we are tortured from without by paternal legislation and deadening sympathy - we are crippled by an European education system. We are crippled from within by this alienation which more often than not, we can give little other expression than to turn in upon ourselves with white mans weapons of self-destruction. But watch out White people - we are on the move, wake up to our blackness before it is too late."



KEEP EYES AND EARS OPEN AND COME TO FORUMS AT KING GEORGE SQUARE OR CENTENARY PLACE AND LISTEN TO BLACK SPEAKERS TELL US ABOUT OURSELVES