



CALL IT OUT **FIRST NATIONS RACISM REGISTER**

INFORMATION – CALL IT OUT & THE RACISM INQUIRY

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Introductory information

- Inquiry and submission general info
- Focus of submissions
- Our role and objectives

The National Inquiry into Racism, Hate and Violence directed at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

A national inquiry into racism, hate and violence directed at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People is happening now. During an inquiry, a Parliamentary Committee receives submissions from interested parties and then holds public hearings to hear direct evidence. This information will inform a report with findings and recommendations.

Submissions are contributions from the community and interested parties. Submissions can be in any format but are often written. Submissions help Parliament understand what is really happening in communities. Every story helps build the evidence needed for change. Submissions to this inquiry are due by 1 May 2026.

When people share their experiences, it can:

- Show how racism, hate and violence are affecting individuals and communities
- Help identify gaps in laws and systems and influence government policy and reform
- Build a national record and strengthen calls for better protections and accountability

Sometimes we can contribute to these processes and changes don't happen like we expect. Recommendations are not always listened to and change can be slow. But it is still important that we put our stories on the record because only then can we ensure we are heard and that the responses are designed with our experiences front of mind.

Focus of submissions

The full terms of reference can be found here: [Terms of Reference – Parliament of Australia](#). In summary, the Inquiry will examine:

- How racism, hate and violence occur and affect First Nations people
- The role of online racism and abuse
- What works in combating racism and reducing its harmful impacts
- The potential impacts of extremism and the role and effectiveness of government agencies in protecting community
- Whether current systems for reporting racism are working
- What needs to change to make communities safer



Our role and objectives

The Call It Out First Nations Racism Register is an initiative of the Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education and Research and the National Justice Project. The Register operates 24/7/365 to hear about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples experiences and perspectives about racism. We do this work because we recognise the devastating impacts of racism and discrimination and we are committed to exposing and addressing it.

Together with advocates Thomas Mayo and Jade Ritchie, we want to assist community members to engage with the Inquiry because we recognise the important potential influence that robust evidence and outcomes of a Parliamentary Inquiry can have. We also want to make the community aware that after the Inquiry has wrapped up, Call It Out will continue to be available to hear and advocate on community experiences of all forms of racism and discrimination.

We are available to:

- Help community document submissions via Call It Out, or
- Linking community with volunteers to help prepare a submission in-person, by phone or online.
- To get help or register as a volunteer to provide support, please visit <https://callitout.com.au/racisminquiry/>

Guidelines for volunteers providing support to community members

- Role of volunteers
- Training
- Community safety, privacy and confidentiality

Role of volunteers

The role of **Inquiry x Volunteers** is to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members to make submissions to the Inquiry.

The primary role of the volunteer is to act as a facilitator and scribe.

Typical tasks may include:

- explaining the purpose and scope of the Inquiry
- helping individuals understand their options for making a submission and helping prepare the submission in the way the contributor prefers
- documenting their experiences accurately and safely (please do not use AI tools as this may distort the accuracy)
- ensuring consent is obtained and their wishes regarding content, and publication/confidentiality are maintained
- assisting with submission formatting if required



Important things to remember

- If you need help or are unsure, please contact us and we will try to assist.
- Volunteers must review the Privacy Policy, Guidelines and Training Video.
- The purpose of this work is to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices to be heard safely and accurately.
- We are providing options, guidelines and suggestions to assist you in supporting community members but what is most important is that the individual determines what and how they participate.
- Volunteers are facilitators and your primary role is to listen and record. The contributor remains the author of their story and their voice must remain authentic.
- If the person you are supporting wants help articulating or organising the information they would like to present, it is ok to assist them but the role of the volunteer remains to help the person express and record their own story rather than influence or change the content.
- You can use open prompts/questions and/or clarifying questions where necessary to allow the contributor to explain something in their own words. Do not influence, direct or lead them in a particular way.
- Consider if an interpreter, support person or aids are needed and help facilitate this.
- Always make sure the contributor agrees to the content (and if given a copy ideally), confirms how it is to be used and knows what the next steps are.
- If community members wish to gather and record a group submission, volunteers can assist with this.
- If something goes wrong or you have concerns, please contact us or the facilitator of the community gathering you are attending.

Training

Volunteers must watch the training video accessible via <https://youtu.be/Wr9nOxpMRdY>.

This video contains important information that you must understand and follow in relation to working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and information about taking a submission.

Please also all [information](#) including the guidelines and [privacy policy](#).



Community safety, privacy and confidentiality

- Please ensure you always treat community members with respect and care.
- Ensure community determines the pace and always retains agency over the process.
- If you are providing support for someone in-person, please meet in a public place or community space.
- If appropriate, you should share a copy of the submission with the community member.
- Once you record the submission and submit it to the Inquiry, do not retain copies or share it elsewhere, unless permission is granted to share it with Call It Out.
- Treat people’s submissions as confidential and do not share or discuss them with anyone.
- Please do not use recording devices, AI or other tools that may violate a person's safety or privacy.

Preparing a submission

- Submission options
- Important information
- Process
- Submission Templates and Instructions

Submission options

Channel	Details	Contact Details
Parliamentary Committee	<p>Submissions can be made before 1 May by creating a <i>My Parliament</i> account or by email or post.</p> <p>Submissions can be in any format – written, audio, video, artwork etc.</p>	<p>Lodge my submission – Parliament of Australia</p> <p>Committee Secretary Joint Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs PO Box 6021 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600</p> <p>Phone: +61 2 6277 4558 rhvinquiry@aph.gov.au</p>
Access support from a volunteer	You can request support via Call It Out to help prepare your submission in-person, over the phone or online.	<p>Request support here: https://callitout.com.au/racisminquiry/</p>



		<p>Or contact us via: 0430054425 info@callitout.com.au Facebook Instagram</p>
<p>Community event</p>	<p>If your community is coming together to prepare submissions and you would like support on the day, please contact us and we will try to find volunteers to help.</p>	<p>Request support here: https://callitout.com.au/racism inquiry/ Or contact us via: 0430054425 info@callitout.com.au Facebook Instagram</p>
<p>Call It Out</p>	<p>Submissions can be made through Call It Out by using the existing channels. We will transfer your information into a submission and make it on your behalf.</p> <p>The Register provides a structure which may be helpful for some people in making a submission. Please make sure you fill in the open text boxes relevant to your submission and be explicit in your responses, particularly if you are responding to Inquiry terms of reference that are not explicitly covered in the Register.</p> <p>Privacy Policy</p> <p>For private submissions, please contact us or register for support and we will contact you: https://callitout.com.au/racism inquiry/</p>	<p>Online form or Paper form</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - public submissions only - you must tick the consent box at the end to tell us you are wanting to make a submission <p>Mobile app</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - public submissions only and you must tick the consent box at the end - you can also record audio via the mobile app - if logged in, you can access your reports <p>Phone or email</p> <p>Contact us and we will be in touch to discuss how we can help: 0430054425 info@callitout.com.au</p>



Important Information about making a submission

Key details about the submission process are located here: [Making a submission to a committee inquiry – Parliament of Australia](#)

Selected elements are summarised here:

What to include or exclude

- Ensure that the names and identifying details of other people, particularly children, are not included in your submission.
- Submissions should not refer to matters currently before a court.
- Do not include threatening or hateful content. The committee may remove any threatening or hateful material before your submission is published or may choose not to publish it.
- You are protected from legal action arising from the lodging or contents of your submission.
- You may also include hyperlinks and references to other documents – include full web addresses, as hyperlinks may be removed before publication.

Confidentiality and Anonymity

- The committee will remove personal details such as email addresses from a submission before publishing it on the website.
- The Committee can publish any submission they receive and there is no guarantee that a submission will never be released, but you can request that they keep all or part of your submission private. If keeping your submission private is important to you, contact the Committee before lodging.
- You can request that the Committee treat the whole or part of a submission confidentially (so that it will not be public or referred to in the report). If the committee has agreed to accept your submission as confidential, you cannot share it with anyone.
- You can request that the Committee publish your submission anonymously by withholding your name (the submission will be marked as 'Name withheld').
- After a submission is received by a committee, you need to wait until the Committee publishes it before you publish or disclose it to any other person.

Process of Submission

- You cannot withdraw or alter your submission without the committee's permission. If there are additional matters you wish to raise, you can do a supplementary submission.
- The committee will notify you once your submission has been accepted or if there are any issues.



- The committee may invite you to appear at a public hearing and give evidence.

Process of helping to prepare a submission

1. Explain what the Inquiry is, what they are looking at (the Terms of Reference) and why submissions matter
2. Explain and obtain instructions/consent around:
 - a. participation is voluntary
 - b. submissions are generally public with your name, but not your contact information. You can request that your submission is private or that your name is withheld.
 - c. you can stop, withdraw or change anything until we submit. After submission, you will need to request permission from the Committee to alter or withdraw a submission.
 - d. whether you want a copy of the submission also made the Call It Out, the ongoing national First Nations Racism Register operated by the Jumbunna Institute
3. Ensure the roles are clear:
 - a. Who is making the submission (individual or group) whose voices will be reflected and have the ultimate say in what is submitted
 - b. Who is scribing, and the specific function of a scribe to listen and record
4. Review the options for making a submission above and see which options the community member wants to take
5. Record the submission and once finished, go over it again and ensure it is approved and final before submitting it. Make sure the community member receives a copy if appropriate.
6. Check in to make sure the participant/s are okay and suggest any relevant support services that might be suitable.
7. Make sure the submission and any relevant notes are disposed of in accordance with the [privacy policy](#).

Submission templates

Submissions can be made in any format, including creative works and videos. If you intend to make a submission in written or audio form, one of the below options might assist you –

Open Template	Available below and via website
Structured Call It Out forms	
ONLINE	https://register.callitout.com.au/
DOWNLOADABLE FORMS FOR PRINTING	Racism Register Form – PDF version Easy Read Racism Register Form – PDF version
DOWNLOADABLE FORMS FOR COMPLETING ELECTRONICALLY	Racism Register Form – Word version Easy Read Racism Register Form – PDF version
MOBILE APP (includes voice/audio option)	Apple App Store & Google Play



Open form submission template

Essential items to review/confirm before recording a submission:

- participation is voluntary
- submissions are generally public with your name, but not your contact information. You can request that your submission is private or that your name is withheld. If you are concerned about privacy, you should talk to the Inquiry Committee or
- you can stop, withdraw or change anything until we submit. After submission, you will need to request permission from the Committee to alter or withdraw a submission.
- a copy of the submission also made the Call It Out, the national First Nations Racism Register
- review the [guidelines](#) applicable to you and the Inquiry terms of reference
- review the [privacy policy](#) (if applicable)

Date:

Name:

Email or Postal Address:

Phone number:

Confidentiality/Anonymity requests:

- public submission (name published but no personal details)
- request name to be withheld
- request private/confidential submission

Submission Content: