STOP the Intervention Collective Sydney

Rally and March

Not a mention of the Intervention

Meet:
Sydney Town Hall
1pm Sat 18 June 2016

Confirmed speakers:
Paddy Gibson, Jenny Munro & Nicole Watson
Bring clapsticks, drums etc
The Intervention was introduced by the Howard government as an emergency measure in 2007. This draconian policy was extended for 10 years and re-labeled “Stronger Futures” by the Rudd/Gillard government. When will this backward policy be repealed?

There are many reports painting bleak pictures of what is happening in the Northern Territory, yet the government is unable to see the enormous rise in incarceration rates, suicide, child removals, and the despair in the communities has any association with this policy. Prof Jon Altman, from the Alfred Deakin Centre for Citizenship and Globalisation, said the Castan Centre’s evaluation of the Intervention was too generous. “The government deserved a zero out of 10,” he said, “for its attempts to improve education, and a negative score on employment rates which had gone backwards since the decision to abolish the community development employment projects (CDEP) program, which employed about 33,000 Indigenous people, particularly in remote communities.”

Liberal and Labor have a bipartisan agreement when it comes to First Nations Affairs – and agree to provide as little as possible and to remove all the power they can from the communities. “Mounting evidence shows measures like compulsory income management and the Basics Card do not reduce disadvantage, and in fact make life more difficult for those forced onto the card. Report after report shows the measure has largely failed in its objectives,” Rachel Siewert of the Greens said. Both major parties give lip service to “Working with communities” but we are still waiting to see any changes to the nine year old Howard policy. The continuation of this policy degrades and shames the whole nation.

More info: www.stoptheintervention.org
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