

SAY NO TO GOVERNMENT INCOME MANAGEMENT

**Not in the Northern Territory
Not in Bankstown
NOT ANYWHERE!**

**“Income Management has made it harder to look after my children.
We need investment in jobs and services in our communities, but the
government is more interested in controlling us “**

**(Barbara Shaw, Aboriginal town camp leader, 2009) Barb will speak at this rally
along with leaders from the local community in Bankstown.**

The Federal government has announced that Income Management will be extended to Bankstown from July 2012!

Income Management "quarantines" 50 per cent of Centrelink payments onto a BasicsCard. This card can only be used to buy "priority items" at government approved stores. Income Management was first introduced through the federal Intervention in NT Aboriginal communities for all people on Centrelink. It has been very discriminatory.

Join this demonstration to demand an immediate
Moratorium on Income Management.

Demand:

- Stop the NT Intervention
- Stop Income Management - No expansion

**RALLY: Saturday 8th October
11.30am, Paul Keating Park,
Bankstown**

For more information contact Adam: 0414 728 815

organised by the Stop the Intervention Collective Sydney: www.stoptheintervention.org

The Federal Government is trying to introduce Income Management into Bankstown in 2012. This policy quarantines half of Centrelink income onto a BasicsCard which can only be used to buy "priority items" at government-approved stores. Income Management will be compulsorily applied to people in Bankstown that Centrelink considers "vulnerable to financial crisis" and those referred by child protection.

This welfare overhaul will potentially affect all welfare recipients in Bankstown, regardless of race or ethnic background. Until now, Income Management has been targeted at Indigenous people. It was first rolled out as part of the racist Intervention in the Northern Territory.

A recent report by the Equality Rights Alliance surveyed 180 women on Income Management in the NT. It found that 79% wanted to exit the system, 85% had not changed what they buy and 74% felt discriminated against. A report released by the Australian Indigenous Doctors Association (AIDA) concludes that compulsory income management in the NT has profoundly long-term negative impacts on psychological health, social health and wellbeing and cultural integrity (March 2010).

A strong new coalition "Say No to Government's Income Management Not in Bankstown Not Anywhere" has formed in Bankstown. The campaign has initiated a call for a national moratorium on Income Management – demanding immediate amnesty for those already on the system and a halt to plans for expansion. Income Management costs more than \$4500 per person per year. This money is badly needed for jobs and social services.

Margaret Goneis, Chairperson of Bankstown City Council Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee said that she is angered by the proposed changes and the effect it will have on individuals already struggling financially: "People need improved access to transport, health services, mental health care and assistance with the high cost of medications – income management will not address these needs".

Come along to this rally + hear from Barbara Shaw, a strong Aboriginal leader who has lived on the BasicsCard for four years. Demand and end to the NT Intervention and Government Income Management!

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