



2nd. May, 2012

The Hon. Jenny Macklin,
Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, Minister for
Disability Reform
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms Macklin,

The Presentation Sisters of Victoria have a commitment to supporting the Indigenous Peoples of our country to attain self-determination and dignity.

We urge you to listen to the voices of the peoples of the 8 nations in the Western, Central and East Arnhem Land at Yolngu Nations Assembly to **“end their interventionist policies and agendas, and return to a mindset of partnership based on the principles of Self-Determination”**.¹

The voices of the people of the Northern Territory are saying that while the Intervention **“was good at first to help our people ... But now our experience is that it has not been beneficial.” You can change names [to Stronger Futures] but you are still following the same [track]**.²

We urge you listen to the voices of the local people and to work in partnership with them.

Yours sincerely,

Bernadette Keating pbvm
Congregation Leader

¹ Djirrkaymirr Rev. Dr. Djiniyini Gondarra, Spokesperson Yolnuw Makarr Dhuni 24 April, 2012-05-02

² Djunadjuna Yunupinu Dalkarramirr for the Gumatj Nation; Yolnuw Nations Assembly; Appendix 1