

June 27, 2012

STATEMENT- SYDNEY RECONCILIATION GROUP

BENNELONG AND SURROUNDS RESIDENTS FOR RECONCILIATION

Bennelong and Surrounds Residents for Reconciliation join the voices of over 43,000 people, made up of Aboriginal Nations, churches, peace groups, universities, TAFE colleges, businesses, corporations and reconciliation groups, opposing **the Stronger Futures legislation**.

This legislation is thought to take away the dignity, autonomy and power of Aboriginal people and be incompatible with **Human Rights**.

The Intervention of June 2007 has already been criticised by U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, and U.N. Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Professor James Anaya, when they visited Australia several years ago.

It has been discussed that Aboriginal people have **not** been consulted properly, nor listened to fairly. Also that the legislation is discriminatory and racist.

Aboriginal opposition to the **Stronger Futures Legislation** points out that they feel they are being "pushed around", losing community control and having distant communities forced together. They want "solid partnerships" control of their land, their own law recognised, real employment, and to be "treated as equals".

Bennelong and Surrounds Residents for Reconciliation
Judy MacGregor
P.O. Box 2068
Hornsby Westfield, NSW 1635