



Edmund Rice Centre

Awareness. Advocacy. Action

ERC JUSTICE UPDATES

June 2021 No.47

Dear All,

Welcome to the 47th Edition of ERC Justice Updates your regular newsletter from the Edmund Rice Centre, on all sorts of matters relating to human rights, first nations and environmental justice.

In this strange world full of many injustices that one comes across everyday - let us never forget that everybody especially the poor and vulnerable need care and compassion. So let us reflect on the words of Maya Angelou:

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel. Maya Angelou.

As always please send us anything you would like included in Justice Updates. Your suggestions and comments both positive and negative or indeed any information that you would like to disseminate amongst the wider Edmund Rice Network - it is all much appreciated.

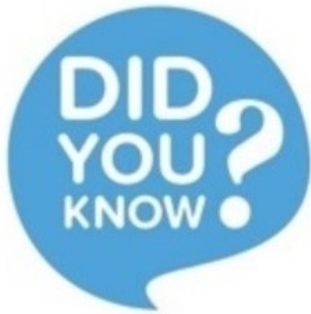
Don't forget to forward Justice Updates onto anyone or let me know their email address and I will subscribe them.

Previous editions are available at <https://www.erc.org.au/newsletters>

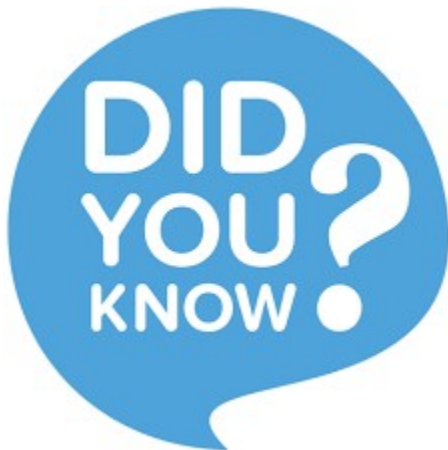
Peace & Blessings

Marita
Communications Project Officer,
Marita McInerney

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that there may be articles in this publication with names and images of deceased people.



On Friday 4th June 2021, the Australian Government will have detained men & women on Nauru & Manus Island/Port Moresby for 2851 days.



In an article in Pearls & Irritations entitled: *'Monthly digest on housing affordability and homelessness: April/May 2021'*, Oliver Frankel summarises twelve articles, research reports, policy announcements and other material relevant to housing stress/affordability and homelessness.

A study by Dr. Catherine Hastings from Macquarie University found that adverse affects on homelessness after the recent withdrawal of government- funded pandemic support were:

- **Homelessness for poorer families occurs when a crisis, such as domestic violence, job loss or eviction, illness or relationship breakdown, challenges their housing security and they do not have the resources to meet it.**
- **The fundamental problem for lower-income families is a lack of adequate financial resources and/or social and affordable housing, rather than the mental health or substance abuse issues which often**

stereotype homeless people.

Brisbane Times reporter Matt Dennien notes that:

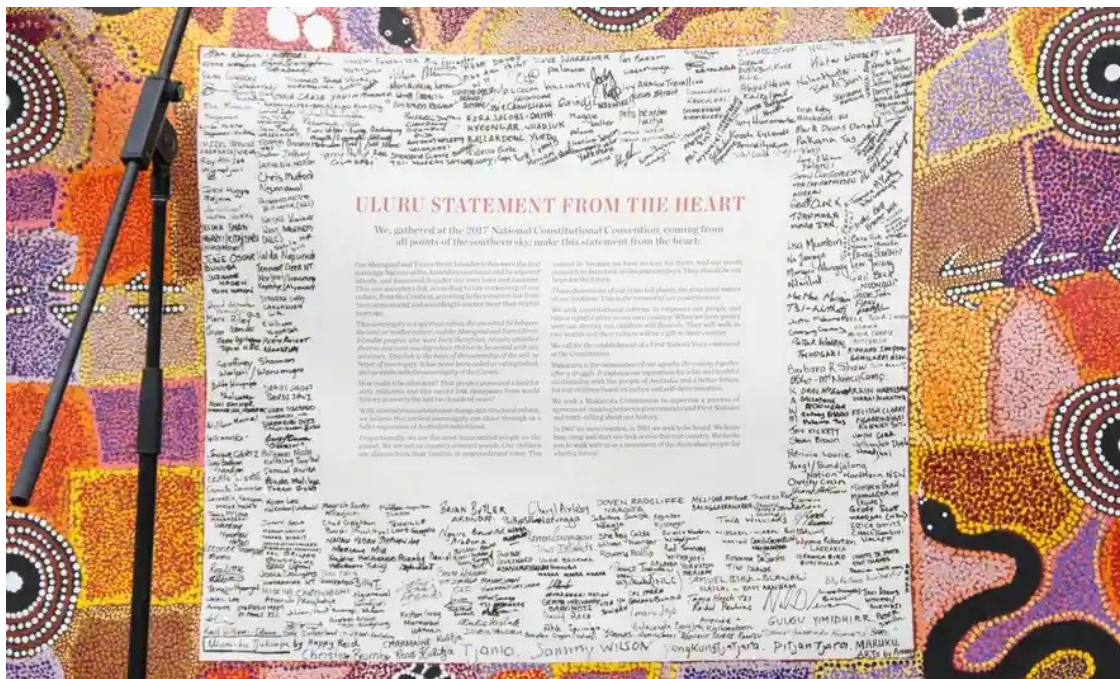
- **Brisbane Youth Service**, a major youth homelessness support service, has experienced more than a 3-fold jump in the number of new requests in the 2021 March quarter compared to the same period in 2020.
- **Factors contributing to steep rise include overlapping pressure of family violence, mental health issues and the winding back of JobKeeper and JobSeeker.**
- **People under 25 make up 42% of Australia's homeless but only 3% of social housing tenants.**

Brisbane Times reporter, Felicity Caldwell, observes that the number of people on the social housing register in Queensland, could fill a town larger than Gladstone:

- **Thirteen of the State's leading community organisations have launched a campaign, 'Town of Nowhere' calling for the state government to invest \$4.1 billion to build 14,700 homes.**
- **The number of people on the social housing register has increased 70% in just 3 years, and the proportion deemed "high need" increased over 80% in the last 17 months.**

New Daily reporter John Kidman provides a sad reminder that:

- **Those at greatest risk in Australia's current homelessness crisis include older women (typically over 55's). They are our fastest growing cohort of homeless people and are mostly unseen - enduring the "hidden" homeless of living in a car, in temporary accommodation, in a garage or couch surfing.**
- **There are about 240,000 women across Australia aged 55 or older at risk of homelessness, particularly those with limited wealth and savings and who don't have access to social housing.**



The Uluru Statement from the Heart, which was first presented to the Australian people in May 2017, has been awarded the 2021 Sydney peace prize. Photograph: Alamy Stock Photo

Uluru Statement from the Heart awarded 2021 Sydney peace prize

Naaman Zhou, *The Guardian*, 26th May 2021

Four years after it was written, judges says the ‘powerful and historic offering of peace’ offers a clear agenda for healing in Australia, and ‘it is now up to us all to make its vision a reality’

The Uluru Statement from the Heart has been awarded the Sydney peace prize for 2021 four years after it was written, with organisers saying time is up for the government to take action on the landmark statement.

The judging panel said the Uluru statement was a “powerful and historic offering of peace” that was crucial to the “healing within our nation”, but had not yet been acted upon.

First presented to the Australian people in May 2017, the statement made two recommendations: a constitutionally recognised Indigenous voice to parliament, and a Makarrata process to investigate truth-telling and treaty-making. Neither have been implemented or, in the case of the voice, put to a referendum.

On Wednesday, First Nations leaders Pat Anderson, Prof Megan Davis and

Noel Pearson accepted the award on behalf of everyone who worked on the statement, which was the result of years of consultation with thousands of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Anderson, an Alyawarre woman from the Northern Territory, told Guardian Australia she was “incredulous” when she found out the statement had won, and that the award was for the group, not individuals.

“It’s a fantastic, amazingly wonderful thing to receive,” she said. “Noel, Megan and I are receiving it on behalf of all of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who attended the regional dialogues four years ago. It’s all their thinking. It’s all their work.”

Anderson said she hoped the award would bring more awareness to the 439-word statement, which she urged every Australian to read.

“We meaningfully and consciously gave the Uluru Statement from the Heart as a gift to the to the Australian people,” she said. “It’s a gift of healing. And indeed love. We don’t often like to use that word. But, you know, it’s a very, very emotional document.”

.....
.....

Anderson said the award would hopefully “provide a lot of energy to the national conversation that we still need to have”.

“Malcolm Turnbull, when he was prime minister, wouldn’t even allow a national conversation. Well, despite that, the nation once again, is ahead of its leaders.”

Anderson said one of her main concerns was there was “a lot of misinformation out there” about the statement. The prime minister, Scott Morrison, and former deputy prime minister Barnaby Joyce have both previously erroneously referred to the voice as a “third chamber” of Australian parliament.

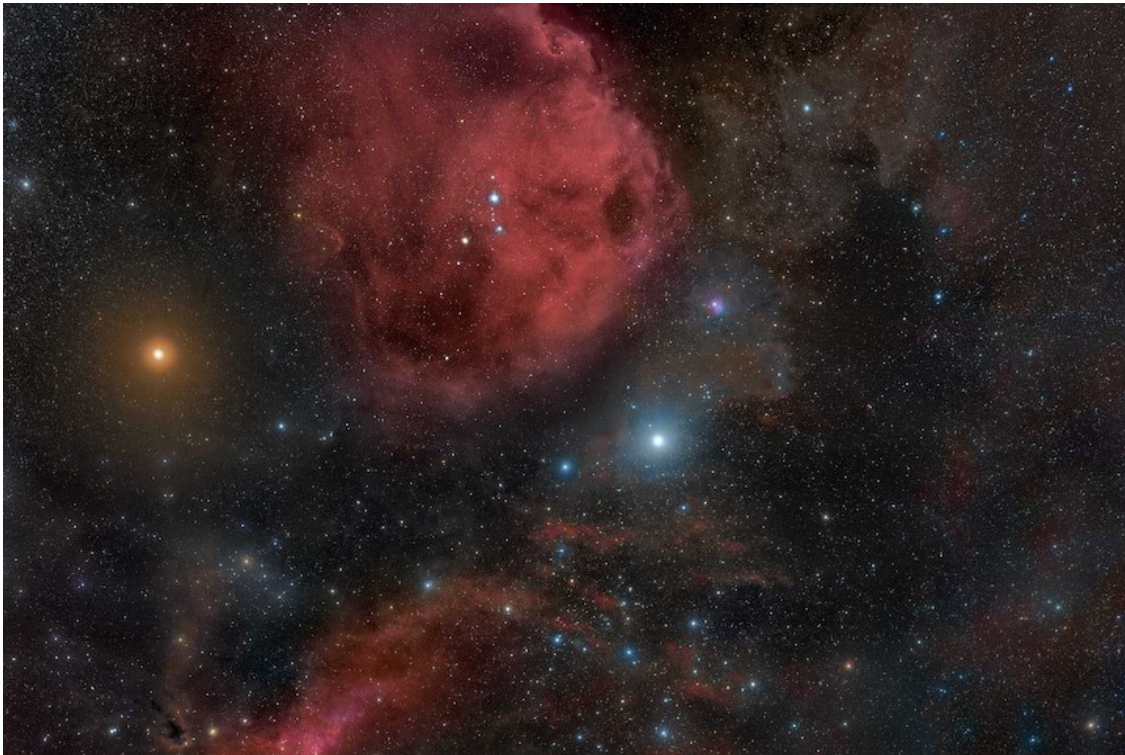
“We’re mounting a public education campaign,” Anderson said. “We have translated it into 63 languages on SBS, so people can read the Uluru Statement from the Heart in their own language. And that’s had quite an emotional effect on a lot of people.

“I think people have this misconception that it’s a very long statement. But it’s not. It’s very emotional, it’s beautiful. And it’s very short. Everyone should read it.”

Read More:

https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2021/may/26/uluru-statement-from-the-heart-awarded-2021-sydney-peace-prize?utm_term=3bf48aec7025fec0a7a2b14ad3f6d1ec&utm_campaign=GuardianTodayAUS&utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&CMP=GTAU_email





The Orion constellation carries a number of different stories across thousands of years and cultures.

(Wikipedia: Rogelio Bernal Andreo)

Lessons of Wiradjuri Dreamtime that are written in the stars are being passed down

Gaye Pattison and Erin Somerville, ABC Goulburn Murray, 3rd May 2021

When the tree goanna makes its way back down onto land, that's the time to go hunting, according to Wiradjuri Dreamtime astronomy.

Key points:

- The Australian Indigenous Astronomy team has been documenting Wiradjuri astronomy with Indigenous and non-Indigenous people since 2014
- Cultural astronomy varies depending on location
- Indigenous Australians have understood and learnt these stories dating back to 65,000 years ago

Long before the Babylonians and the Greeks and prior to both the Renaissance and Enlightenment periods, there was Indigenous astronomy.

This makes the First Nations' cultures of Australia the world's oldest astronomers.

Millenia before the Greeks' mathematically proved the Earth was round, Australian Indigenous stargazers had already noted that the position of the south celestial pole moved as they travelled north and south.

These lessons of the sky and relating Dreamtime stories are being rediscovered through the Australian Indigenous Astronomy team.

Astronomers and Aboriginal people team up to share the magic of the universe from both a modern and ancient perspective.

Cultural Astronomer Trevor Leaman is a University of New South Wales PhD candidate in the School of Humanities and Languages and is researching the astronomical traditions of the Wiradjuri people of Central NSW with the Australian Indigenous Astronomy team.

He says science and storytelling have always been part of the constellations covering the entire northern and southern sky.

"Sometimes the magic is lost when you don't incorporate that cultural element," he said.

"We've got 88 constellations and each one is a story, there is a reason for them and a narrative to them."

Ancient stories in the stars

One of the most recognisable constellations is Orion, named after a hunter in Greek mythology.

In Indigenous culture that constellation is also a hunter with a belt that holds a boomerang, or in other Dreamtime narratives it is three brothers in a canoe, depending on the global position of the stargazer.

Tina Leaman is a researcher and Palawa woman from Tasmania.

She travelled alongside her husband, Trevor Leaman, to visit The Astronomical Society of Albury-Wodonga and view the Border sky through a cultural lens.

Ms Leaman said to understand culture meant to understand kinship and

totemism.

"As a global citizen I look at the connection between things, like the stars and the seasons, and when resources are available," she said.

Read full story:

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-05-03/indigenous-astronomy-wiradjuri-dreaming/100110328?utm_campaign=news-article-share-control&utm_content=facebook&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_source=abc_news_web&fbclid=IwAR1Fep8ZM2GYhd8OtMV0i85kNINJD-UjLGmuO1mgqBzPQfft81AMGL3dpI



Indi Kindi early childcare is an Indigenous designed and led program that Unicef has decided to support to address disadvantage among Aboriginal children. Credit:Rhett Wyman

How a town Tony Abbott described as having the worst housing in Australia is changing the game

Julie Power, Sydney Morning Herald, 24th May 2021

Under a tree in Borroloola, a remote Aboriginal community about 10 hours drive from Darwin where less than half of all children attend school most days, local Garrawa woman Deandra McDinny helps toddlers with jigsaw puzzles.

After delighting in how far they can throw their sunhats in the tree, the children

eat a lunch of stir-fried beef and brown rice before singing a local version of Frère Jacques: "Barramundi, Barramundi ... cockatoo"

Indi Kindi early childcare is an Indigenous designed and led program that Unicef has decided to support to address disadvantage among Aboriginal children.

Indi Kindi early childcare is an Indigenous designed and led program that Unicef has decided to support to address disadvantage among Aboriginal children. Credit:Rhett Wyman

Welcome to Indi Kindi, an outdoor walking-learning early years program that travels from the bush to the river and local library. It's led and taught by local Aboriginal people - and now a review of the Moriarty Foundation's program has found it has bridged the gap in early childhood education by reaching 80 per cent of Indigenous preschool-aged children in Borroloola and nearby Robinson River on the Gulf of Carpentaria.

A qualified Indi Kindi educator, Ms McDinny said she did it for "the love of the kids, the smiles. They know they are going to learn something".

Parents said Indi Kindi was "deadly" because the children could speak in any of the five local Indigenous languages, learn Aboriginal culture, including cooking damper and kangaroo tail, at the same time as making them school ready. It also involved local families, provided employment and training, and provide the children with healthcare, including a visit from dentists last week.

For nearly nine years, the foundation - started by former soccer player John Moriarty, who was born in Borroloola and was the first Aboriginal to be selected for a national team - has run programs for preschool and school-aged children in 18 of Australia's most disadvantaged and remote Aboriginal communities.

Read More:

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/how-a-town-tony-abbott-described-as-having-the-worst-housing-in-australia-is-changing-the-game-20210524-p57um3.html>



Sri Lankan military personnel take part in a training exercise on the eastern coast of Trincomalee, Sri Lanka, which has become a hub for Australia and other members of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue. (LAKRUWAN WANNIARACHCHI / AFP via Getty Images)

Australia Is Supporting the Oppression of Tamils in Sri Lanka

Barathan Vidhyapathy, Jacobin, 14th May 2021

In May 2009, Sri Lankan forces massacred 150,000 Eelam Tamils trapped in the island's north. The slaughter was part of an ongoing campaign of ethnic cleansing. But the Australian government has whitewashed those atrocities and helped equip Sri Lanka's state security forces.

Tamils and their supporters are planning protests in cities around the world to commemorate May 18 — Tamil Genocide Day — and to remember the Mullivaikkal massacre.

In March of this year, Australia backed a UK-led resolution at the UN Human Rights Council that expressed “deep concern” at the “deteriorating situation” in Sri Lanka. The resolution noted the “accelerating militarization of civilian government functions [and] the erosion of the independence of the judiciary,” and the “increased marginalization” of Tamil and Muslim communities.

However, just one month later, the Australian government gave Sri Lanka's police force five aerial surveillance drones. The drones were previously owned by the Operation Sovereign Borders Joint Agency Task Force, part of Australia's military-led border security operation whose primary responsibility is to "deter and disrupt" asylum seekers trying to reach Australia.

Australia claims that the drones will be used to support "crime-fighting" activities. But past experience makes it perfectly clear that the Sri Lankan authorities are likely to use the drones for surveillance of Tamil refugees fleeing the island — and government officials in Canberra know it.

Australia's Support for Mass Killings

This is not the first time the Australian government has supplied Sri Lankan state forces with military hardware. Twelve years ago, as the country's military committed one of the largest mass killings so far witnessed in the twenty-first century, Australia provided similar aid that was intended to stop people fleeing.

"The Sri Lankan authorities are likely to use Australian drones for surveillance of Tamil refugees fleeing the island — and government officials in Canberra know it."

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) had once administered three-quarters of the territory of the island's Northeastern Province. By May 2009, they were confined to a small piece of coastland near Mullivaikkal, in the Mullaitivu District. When the Sri Lankan military launched its final offensive, it ordered the 330,000 Tamil civilians behind LTTE lines to shelter in designated no-fire zones. Despite having declared these to be safe areas, the Sri Lankan authorities ordered the evacuation of all media and UN personnel.

The Sri Lankan military then proceeded to shell the "no-fire" zones, targeting hospitals, food distribution routes, and Red Cross ships. The army had already defeated the LTTE — the purpose of this offensive was to destroy the civilian population that had sustained it.

Footage later emerged documenting systematic crimes, including rape, the killing of civilians, and summary executions of surrendering combatants. A 2012 UN report noted that over 70,000 people still remained unaccounted for. The real death toll is certainly higher than this figure. The most precise estimate, based on local census figures, is that 146,679 people died.

Read More:

<https://jacobinmag.com/2021/05/sri-lanka-australia-eelam-tamils-genocide-military-aid-drones-refugees>

Australian government legalises 'a crime against humanity'

Mike Secombe, The Saturday Paper, May 29th-June 4th 2021

A 20-year fight over the indefinite detention of asylum seekers has culminated in a law advocates fear will strand refugees behind bars for life.

At 5.40pm on Wednesday, May 12, one member of the house of representatives stood up to speak his conscience. He was the only one.

Tasmanian independant Andrew Wilkie did not hold back. He effectively accused his major party parliamentary colleagues of implicating themselves in a crime against humanity, and he made a compelling case.

The subject of his speech was a piece of legislation entitled the Migration Amendment (Clarifying International Obligations for Removal) Bill, 2021, which - the pretext of safeguarding refugees from being sent back to where they fled possible persecution, torture, ill treatment, or other serious human rights violations - provides for indefinite detention in Australia.

Wilkie told the handful of members present that he disagreed on principle with the notion of indefinite detention, which has long been part of the Australian immigration regime. But particularly that this bill would allow "that someone who has had their visa cancelled and for whatever reason is unable to be returned to their country of origin could be held in immigration detention for the rest of their days".

He reminded his colleagues that under the Rome Statute, an international agreement to which Australia is a party, "it is explicitly detailed that it is a crime against humanity to hold anyone in detention indefinitely".

Wilkie also condemned the government for "disrespecting" the courts - whenever there was a ruling against it, he said, "the government just keeps changing the law until it finds a workaround" - and for resorting to making laws retrospective, and for

having enacted, over the last 20years, "almost 100 different laws.... many of which have been quite unnecessary and are very worrying extensions of the power of the state".

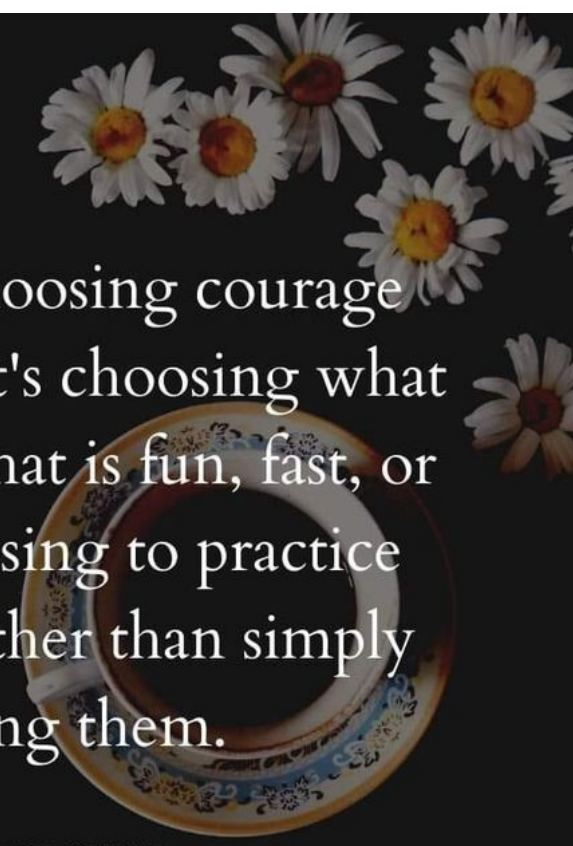
He continued, listing 10 different international agreements relating to human rights to which Australia was supposedly bound, but with those compounding border security and migration laws were at odds.

Read More *

https://www.thesaturdaypaper.com.au/news/politics/2021/05/29/australian-government-legalises-crime-against-humanity/162221040011765?fbclid=IwAR1Xt8bKMDUIMvKFT7grr-66zg_Plo4nidflH787A-WnmK12e08U_kMcVs8#hrd

NB Please note that there will be paywall unless you are a subscriber. If you would like to read the remainder of the article please email me at:

mmcinerney@edmundrice.org

A decorative background featuring several white daisies with yellow centers in the upper right corner and a white teacup with a blue floral pattern on a matching saucer in the lower right. The background is a solid dark grey.

Integrity is choosing courage
over comfort. It's choosing what
is right over what is fun, fast, or
easy. It's choosing to practice
your values rather than simply
professing them.

BRENE BROWN

ContemplativeMonk.com





Sister Brigid Arthur, 86, and Anj Sharma, 16, are among a group who secured a judgment from the Australian federal court that found the government has a duty to protect young people from climate change.

Australian court finds government has duty to protect young people from climate crisis

Adam Morton, The Guardian, 27th May 2021

Eight teenagers, along with 86-year-old nun, launched case to prevent the approval of a massive coalmine

The federal court of Australia has found the environment minister, Sussan Ley, has a duty of care to protect young people from the climate crisis in a judgment hailed by lawyers and teenagers who brought the case as a world first.

Eight teenagers and an octogenarian nun had sought an injunction to prevent Ley approving a proposal by Whitehaven Coal to expand the Vickery coalmine in northern New South Wales, arguing the minister had a common law duty of care to protect younger people against future harm from climate change.

Justice Mordecai Bromberg found the minister had a duty of care to not act in a way that would cause future harm to younger people. But he did not grant the injunction as he was not satisfied the minister would breach her duty of care.

David Barnden, a lawyer representing the children, said it was a historic and

“amazing decision” with potentially significant consequences.

“The court has found that the minister owes a duty of care to younger children, to vulnerable people, and that duty says that the minister must not act in a way that causes harm – future harm – from climate change to younger people,” he said outside court. “It is the first time in the world that such a duty of care has been recognised, especially in a common law country.”

He said Bromberg had indicated he would now take submissions before making further declarations about what the minister’s duty of care may mean for whether the mine extension could go ahead.

Whitehaven Coal had a different interpretation of the judgment. In a statement to the stock exchange, it did not mention the duty of care finding, and said it welcomed the court dismissing the teenagers’ attempt to block Ley from approving the mine extension.

Advertisement

“Our consistent position has been that this legal claim was without merit,” it said. “Whitehaven looks forward to receiving the ... approval for the Vickery extension project and will keep the market updated as appropriate.”

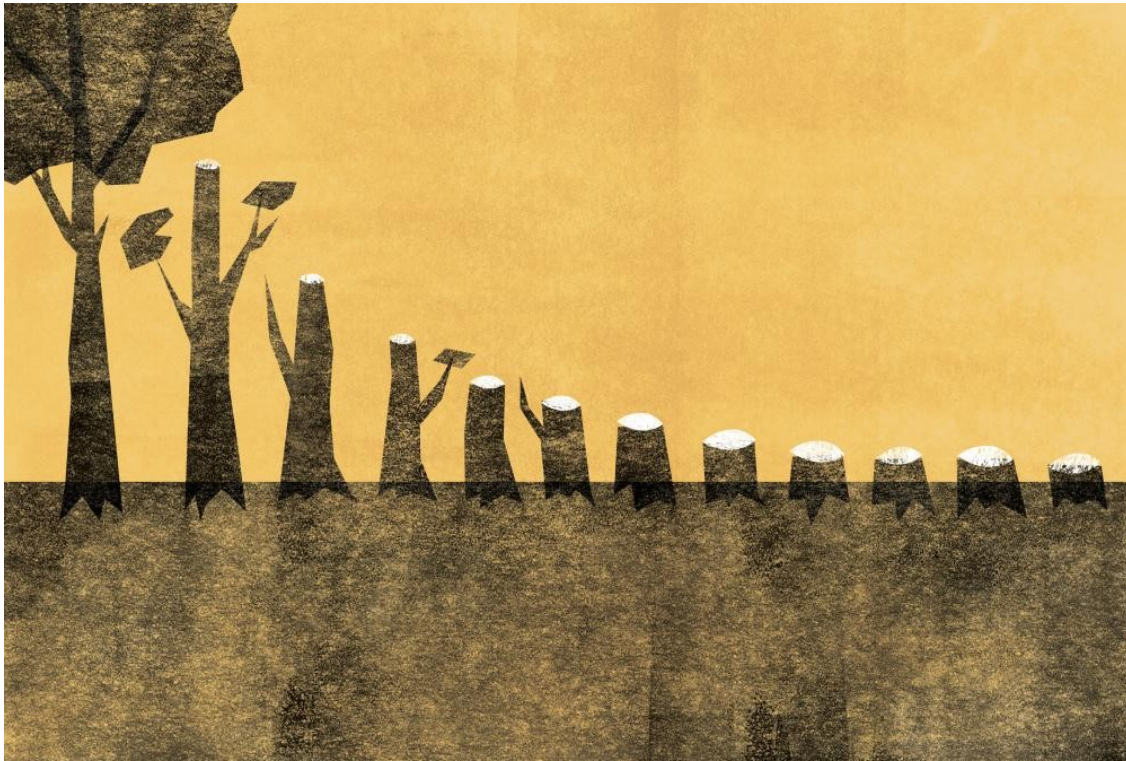
Speaking for the children, 17-year-old Ava Princi said it was “thrilling and deeply relieving” that the justice had recognised the minister had a duty of care.

“I am thrilled because this is a landmark decision,” she said. “My future and the future of all young people depends on Australia stepping away from fossil fuel projects and joining the world in taking decisive climate action.”

She said though an injunction was not granted the case was “not over yet”. “There will be further submissions on what the duty of care means for the minister’s decision and the mine,” she said.

Read More:

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2021/may/27/australian-court-finds-government-has-duty-to-protect-young-people-from-climate-crisis?fbclid=IwAR20CxbV88CrYtbo9WucNujigjOUrzyJtN9VQgU5NlnOltQgO243UobbYZA>



Logging: Ben Sanders, Illustration

Pacific Plunder

The extraction of valuable resources from across the Pacific has made companies billions but comes at a sometimes catastrophic cost

The Guardian, 31st May 2021

Credits:

Design and development: Nick Evershed and Andy Ball

Analysis and reporting: Josh Nicholas, Ben Doherty, and Kate Lyons

Illustrations: Ben Sanders

Millions of tonnes of minerals, fish and timber are extracted from Pacific island nations each year, generating massive profits for foreign multinationals. Across the region, mining, fishing and logging industries have shored up the budgets and stabilised the economies of Pacific countries, sometimes making and breaking governments.

Done well, these industries bring jobs to the Pacific and bring in much-needed revenue for development. But there are also cases where companies have started mining, logging and fishing projects without regard for environmental or social harms of the work they do. The region is covered in the scars of mining

projects, deforestation and illegal fishing.

The Guardian has collected data from across the region to map what resources are being harvested from Pacific countries, where they end up, who these projects profit and who they harm. Over the next month, we will launch a series of reports and investigations that outline the impact of the resource extraction industry in the Pacific region – focusing on logging, mining, fishing, and the emerging industry of deep-sea mining.

A global audit of Pacific resource extraction undertaken by the Guardian's Pacific Project has revealed that:

- China dominates resource extraction in the region, taking just over half the total tonnes of the minerals, timber and fish exported.
- In some industries, Pacific communities see less than 12% of the final value of the resources being extracted, with little paid in royalties or reinvested in the countries which own the resources. Despite their collective natural resource wealth, GDP per capita remains low for many Pacific Island states.
- The extraction each year of billions of dollars worth of minerals, oil, gas and timber – US\$11.8bn in 2019 - is causing environmental devastation, poisoning rivers and forests, and degrading food security.

The scale of these extractive industries is also having significant social and health impacts on Pacific people.

China is the Pacific's biggest customer whether measured by weight or US dollars. But Australia is close behind when measured in value – \$2.8bn to China's \$3.3bn in 2019. This is due to the fact that while China takes a lot of wood and fish from the region – which are heavy but relatively inexpensive – Australia imports valuable minerals, such as gold.

China's lack of laws against importing illegal timber, and poor accountability for environmental or social impacts mean the impact of their resource extraction is often worse than for companies from countries like Australia, which are subject to more scrutiny.

“China's mineral, timber, fossil fuel, food and other imports from Pacific Island nations are staggering in magnitude. They're creating enormous challenges for

sustainable development in the region,” says Prof Bill Laurance from James Cook University.

Logging

Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea are among the largest exporters of tropical logs in the world. But the forestry industry is dominated by foreign companies, with some of the logging done illegally and often at unsustainable levels.

By some estimates Solomon Islands exports more than 19 times a sustainable amount of timber every year. On current rates, the archipelago could exhaust all of its natural forests by 2036.

Already there is evidence that logging in Solomon Islands is impacting the country’s coral reefs, a vital part of the food ecosystem. Logging projects have also been linked to significant internal migration and increasing food insecurity through localised inflation and the destruction of mangroves and food gardens.

Many communities across the Pacific have been left with little to show for decades of logging – despite the fact that forested land is mostly under customary ownership. Corruption and poor processes mean that landowners and governments are often shortchanged. In PNG, the reported annual revenues from forestry are between US\$200m and \$300m, but the industry claims to make only between \$8m and \$9m in profit.

Read full feature:

https://www.theguardian.com/world/ng-interactive/2021/may/31/pacific-plunder-this-is-who-profits-from-the-mass-extraction-of-the-regions-natural-resources-interactive?utm_term=ee9056e2dd175bae02f34e19e4de7534&utm_campaign=GuardianTodayAUS&utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&CMP=GTAU_email



New Just Comment

Transforming Society One Business at a Time

Preserving Jobs and Businesses in Challenging Times

Mainstream criticism of capitalism continues as its unethical foundations are exposed in the unequal way wealth is distributed and the planet's ecosystems destroyed.

Crucially since the Global Financial Crisis (2007-2009) there have been no new policy initiatives to address these damaging effects of macro neo-liberal economics.

In order to face this problem going forward we need to come to accept, as a society, that we are using the wrong business model - the extractive limited liability company.

Download Full PDF Document:

<https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/erc/pages/1780/attachments/original>

REFLECTIONS



Short Reflections

Source: Fr. Claude Mostowik's msc Liturgy Notes Trinity Sunday 30th May 2021

'The most pernicious heresies that block us from properly knowing God are not those of formal dogma, but those of a culture of individualism that invites us to believe that we are self-sufficient, that we can have community and family on our own terms, and that we can have God without dealing with each other. But God is community – and only in open our lives in gracious hospitality will we ever understand that.'

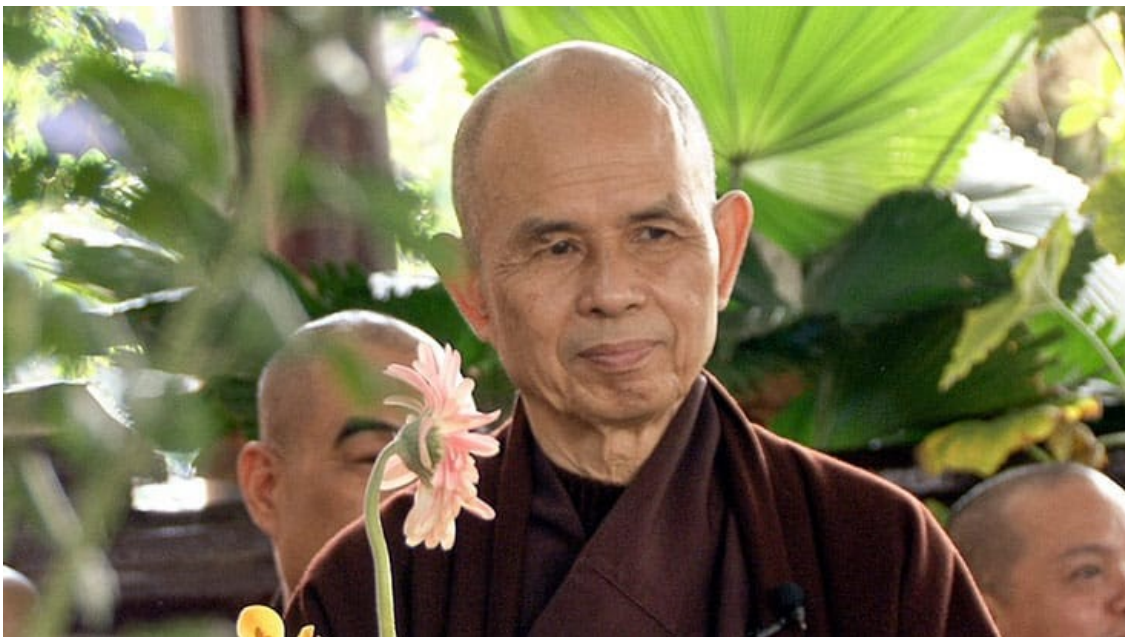
Ronald Rolheiser O.M.I.

Finally, may Christ inflame the desires of all people to break through the barriers which divide, to strengthen the bonds of mutual love, to learn to understand one another, and to pardon those who have done them wrong. Through Christ's power and inspiration may all peoples welcome each other to their hearts as brothers and sisters, and may the peace they long for ever flower and ever reign among them.

Pope John XXIII, Pacem in Terris, #171

**Whenever a human community resists
its own destruction or works for its own renewal;
when structural changes serve the liberation of oppressed peoples;
when law subverts sexism, racism, poverty, and militarism;
when swords are beaten into ploughshares
or bombs into food for the starving;
when the scores of old injustices are healed;
when enemies are reconciled once violence and domination have ceased;
whenever the lies and the raping and the killing stop;
wherever diversity is sustained in koinônia;
wherever justice and peace and freedom gain a transformative foothold--
there the living presence of powerful, blessing mystery
amid the brokenness of the world is mediated.**

Elizabeth Johnson CSJ, She Who Is, p.126



Pace - e - Bene
Daily Non-violence Inspirations

Monday May 31, 2021

"A person who looks at the table and can see the universe is a person who can see the way. . . . People normally cut reality into compartments and so are unable to see the interdependence of all phenomena. To see one in all and all in one is to break through the great barrier which narrows one's perception of reality."

—Thich Nhat Hanh

We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples of Australia as the traditional owners and custodians of the land. We commit ourselves to actively work alongside them for reconciliation and justice. We pay our respects to the Elders; past, present and future. As we take our next step we remember the first footsteps taken on this sacred land.

The Edmund Rice Centre wholeheartedly supports and endorses the
ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART
and urges all Australians to get behind this wonderful statement.

Our mailing address is:

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