

2016 NT ELECTION: SIX ASKS TO MAKE JUSTICE WORK for TERRITORIANS



ABORIGINAL JUSTICE AGREEMENT

Negotiate an Aboriginal Justice Agreement that sets out how the government and Aboriginal people will work together to make justice work.



SPECIALIST & THERAPEUTIC COURTS

Commit to establishing and resourcing specialist and therapeutic courts across the Territory's entire justice system.



REHABILITATION & REINTEGRATION

Intensive supervision with community-based services reduced recidivism rates by 18 per cent.

One of the key roles prison must play in our society is rehabilitating people for their return to the community. There needs to be increased funding for rehabilitation, reintegration and employment programs for young people and adults already in the system.



Community-based programs have a greater impact on recidivism than those based in prisons.ⁱ

ⁱ According to the WSIPP study, the latter reduced recidivism rates by an average of 5–10 per cent, whereas intensive supervision with community-based services reduced recidivism rates by 18 per cent.



REDUCE THE NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE BEING LOCKED UP

The government could employ **3.5 mid-level nurses** each year for the same amount it costs to keep **one young person in detention**.ⁱⁱ

The NT locks up young people more often than anywhere else in Australia. Evidence based early childhood programs, like the Nurse Family Partnership Program, have been shown to reduce by more than 75% interactions between young people and the criminal justice system.ⁱⁱⁱ

A study by the Australian Institute of Criminology found that young people diverted from the court system were less likely to have further involvement in the criminal justice system.^{iv}

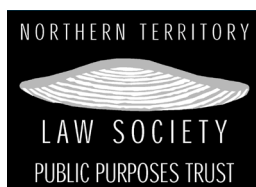
ⁱⁱ See Department of Correctional Services Annual Report 2014-2015.

ⁱⁱⁱ Tremblay R E, Gervais J, et al. (2008). Early childhood learning prevents youth violence. Montreal, Quebec, Centre of Excellence for Early Childhood Development.

^{iv} Troy Allard, Anna Stewart, April Chrzanowski, James Ogilvie, Dan Birks and Simon Little, Police Diversion of Young Offenders and Indigenous Over Representation (March 2010) Australian Institute of Criminology.



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ABOLISH MANDATORY SENTENCING

The government could employ **one senior classroom teacher** for the same amount it costs to keep **one person in prison** each year.^v

Mandatory sentencing does not work to reduce crime or make the community a safer place. Harsher sentences have been shown not to deter offenders.

^v See Department of Correctional Services Annual Report 2014-2015.



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO DEAL WITH ALCOHOL

The cost per person of alcohol-related harm in the NT is **more than four times the national level**.^{vi}

Alcohol is a major driving factor behind offending and causes significant harm to our community.

The NT needs a comprehensive plan to deal with alcohol – including a review of current laws and policies to identify strengths and shortcomings.

^{vi} http://www.menzies.edu.au/page/Research/Indigenous_Health/Smoking_alcohol_drugs_and_other_addictive_behaviours/Alcohol/



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