

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL CHILD HEALTH SURVEY

5942. Hon Shelley Archer to the Minister for Local Government representing the Minister for Education and Training

I refer the Minister to the Report on the Western Australian Aboriginal Child Health Survey, carried out by the Kulunga Research Network at the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research. I draw the Minister's attention to Recommendation 9 of the Report, namely, 'Schools should be charged with an express responsibility to ensure that all children learn to cope well with the experience of race. Pre and in-service training for teachers and other school personnel should ensure that new teachers understand the positive role they can play in communicating the message to all children that prejudice is potentially harmful and that discussion of such issues can help in reducing this harm', and I ask -

Will the Minister advise the House what progress has been made in respect of this recommendation?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

A range of resources including the Syllabus for Society and Environment, the Aboriginal Perspectives Across the Curriculum website and Racism No Way are available for teachers to support students in valuing and respecting cultural difference, Aboriginal culture, Aboriginal history and perspectives. Teacher professional learning programs emphasise the development of teachers' skills and understandings to address students' social, emotional and cultural understandings. The Department of Education and Training representatives on National Working Parties are ensuring that the requirements for national accreditation of pre-service teacher education include understandings about Aboriginal education.