



## Attorney General; Minister for Electoral Affairs

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Our Ref: 67-33603

The Hon. Peter Foster MLC  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
Legislative Council Committee Office

By email: [env@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto:env@parliament.wa.gov.au)

Dear Mr Foster

**PETITION NO. 085 – RACIAL DISCRIMINATION WITHIN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM AND  
PETITION NO. 086 – URGENT REVIEW OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM**

Thank you for your correspondence dated 22 June 2023, requesting my comments on Petitions 85 and 86 regarding addressing racial discrimination in the justice system and seeking a ban on all white juries.

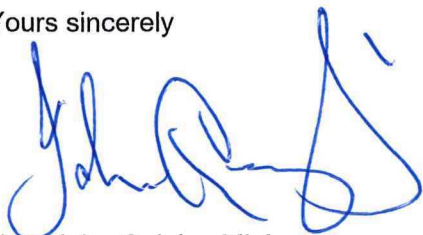
Petitions 85 and 86 seek a full review of the justice system to identify systemic and procedural factors contributing to the over-incarceration of Aboriginal peoples. In relation to this request, I draw your attention to the large body of work being done to address this including through the Joint Council on Closing the Gap, Justice Policy Partnership (JPP) under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap (National Agreement). The JPP focuses on actions that will accelerate progress towards reducing Aboriginal imprisonment (Target 10) and reducing Aboriginal youth detention (Target 11) including through implementing the National Agreement's Priority Reforms.

Furthermore, I advise that the Department of Justice has established the Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee (AJAC) to provide advice on justice matters impacting Aboriginal people; is developing an Aboriginal Family Safety Strategy to improve the justice response to family violence in Aboriginal families and communities; and has commenced implementation of the Aboriginal Cultural Capability Training Strategy to improve the justice response to Aboriginal people throughout all Divisions of the Department. In short, this Government is progressing reform that works to identify and respond to systemic and procedural factors contributing to the over-incarceration of Aboriginal people.

In relation to the petitioned request for a ban on all white juries, I am supportive of improving the diversity of juries, including Aboriginal representation on juries, and look forward to progressing initiatives in this area as they arise. To this end, I have asked the Department of Justice to investigate ways in which Aboriginal representation on juries might be improved.

I trust the above information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Quigley', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon. John Quigley MLA  
**ATTORNEY GENERAL; MINISTER FOR ELECTORAL AFFAIRS**

**08 AUG 2023**