

<p>Acknowledgement of Country</p>	<p>I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we are meeting; the peoples of the Nation. This is, was, and always will be Indigenous land and I would like to pay my respects to Elders, past, present and emerging.</p>
<p>Introduction. Building empathy</p>	<p>Today I particularly want to focus on the emerging leaders of Indigenous Australia. The kids who are going to be a part of this country's future. We know that kids have healthy, happy childhoods when they live in loving and nurturing communities. It is really our kids' connections with family and community that allows them to flourish, and sets them up for positive lives.</p>
<p>Threat</p>	<p>But government policies are disproportionately separating Indigenous kids from their communities. By locking up kids as young as 10, we are repeating our past mistakes and threatening our future as a fair, just and harmonious community.</p> <p>Indigenous kids make up only five per cent of young Australians, but make up more than half the kids locked up nationally and are 26 times more likely to be detained than other young Australians.</p>
<p>Solutions</p>	<p>This isn't fair and we want to see an end to the overrepresentation of Indigenous kids removed from their communities and placed in the justice system. We want programs that support them to grow up strong and resilient so that they don't get into trouble in the first place and never have contact with the justice system. In 5 years we will work towards reducing the rate of incarceration by 25%. And we can make this happen. There are some incredible people, organisations and initiatives already having great outcomes in this area.</p> <p>There are positive community led solutions that have been developed by Indigenous people, solutions that empower kids and their communities and ensure they can be happy, safe and most importantly together. <Insert example></p> <p>When Sarah's parents split she got into trouble. Fortunately instead of being locked up she was given the opportunity to go out bush with the Yiriman Women's Program to connect with her grandmother's country. For a week she learned about local stories, songlines and how to dance and sing. She said "I got out of it a sense of belonging... I find that a sense of belonging gives you a sense of respect." Now Sarah works for a brilliant local organisation working to secure a bright future for her community and she has plans to start her own business.</p> <p>Together Indigenous and non-Indigenous brothers and sisters, partners and allies will campaign for a brighter tomorrow for Indigenous kids. We want to raise community awareness and mobilise public support and make sure our politicians take notice. Will you be a part of this change?</p> <p>Today we are asking you to make a commitment to kids by <insert ask here></p>