

Advertisement


ZIERA TRULY X... ZIERA DONAL... ZIERA ZIERA DESTIN... ZIERA KAGEN... ZIERA ANNIE X...

Read Today's Paper

Tributes

3:50pm Monday, January 25th, 2021

Rewards

Sydney Today  21° / 32°

The Daily Telegraph

Hi, Margaret

News > Opinion

Virtue signalling does nothing to make lives of indigenous Australians safer

Moves to change the date of Australia Day, or ignore it altogether at the cricket, is pointless, divisive — and won't help indigenous Australians, writes Jacinta Price

Jacinta Price

3 min read January 21, 2021 - 10:34PM The Daily Telegraph

253 comments

Right now the lives and wellbeing of all Australians depends on a unified nation, and Australia Day is more important than ever.

In Abraham Lincoln's words: "a house divided against itself cannot stand." And with the threat of COVID — coupled with the economic damage threatened by China — we have to come together in order to stand strong. To do otherwise would be a deliberate act of narcissistic self

sabotage.

Arguing to change the date of Australia Day is arguing to establish yet another superficial and ineffective act of symbolism that will change nothing for the plight of marginalised indigenous Australians.



Jacinta Nampijinpa Price is a Warlpiri/Celtic woman from Alice Springs. Photo: Emma Murray

And virtue-signalling sporting associations like Cricket Australia, who claim to want to make next Tuesday's Big Bash "culturally safe" by not mentioning Australia Day — perhaps in the spirit of "don't mention the war" — are doing nothing to make the lives of actual indigenous Australians safer.

Would changing the date have prevented the recent tragic death of an Alice Springs woman, allegedly murdered in a brutal domestic violence attack? Will a different date halt the continued bashings and child sexual assault in our remote communities? Will it stamp out the destructive alcoholism and welfare dependency?

No. It's pointless window dressing. A curtain that simply works to conceal the real problems indigenous Australian face by giving a superficial matter centre stage under a bright spotlight; while in the wings, women and children continue to be molested, battered and killed.

Nor will making such a change appease the aggrieved and offended minority whose goal is seemingly not to solve our most critical problems or attain unity, but to spark and maintain division.



Cricket Australia's will omit references to Australia Day from the Big Bash League to make the games more inclusive for people who regard the day as one to mourn Aboriginal lives lost. Picture: Getty

Along with the continued planning for Australia Day protests, we have the recent example of the rabid campaign to force the makers of Coon Cheese to change its name — which ignored the brand's innocuous origins acknowledging the cheese process pioneer Edward Coon.

And were the complainants happy when the name was changed to the equally inoffensive 'Cheer Cheese'? No ... they then whinged that indigenous people should have been consulted about the new name. And Sky News has reported the main activist in the case plans to sue for \$2.1 million in damages.

FROM OUR PARTNERS [↗](#)

Watch Supercars on Foxtel! Bergins Feb 28 **New customers get a 10 day free trial**

This proof that bending to the will of the 'offenderati' never appeases them is likely to be repeated if we capitulate to their campaign against our national day.

But the arguments they put forward don't stack up, in any case.

They claim we Aboriginal Australians, or 'First Nations People' as termed by the elitist politically correct, are not recognised enough within our nation.

If you are Aboriginal or of Aboriginal descent you are told by activists and self-flagellating sycophants that we are victims of our colonial past and continued imaginary white oppression. This false depiction removes our agency and fails to recognise our individual abilities as human beings.



Price says energy would be better spent providing genuine help for those who suffer real world disadvantage and trauma. Picture: AAP

It also plays ignorant to the forms of recognition of Aboriginal Australia that Australians participate in whether wilfully or forcefully year in, year out.

There are 11 official days of the year and one entire week all dedicated to recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Not to mention every single event, program, sporting game, theatre performance, school assembly, Council meeting, conference and email salutation where there is a 'Welcome to Country' or 'Recognition of the Land in which we are so very privileged to be gathered on'.

To suggest Australians don't do enough to recognise Aboriginal Australia is to suggest the sun rises in the west: it simply is not true.

If they can get beyond being perpetually offended, they may instead find they could invest their energy into supporting practical outcomes to overcome family violence, child sexual abuse, youth suicide, alcohol and substance abuse in our indigenous communities and providing genuine help for those who suffer real world disadvantage and trauma.





Invasion Day rallies are now a mainstay of January 26 across Australia. Picture: AAP

It would also be wise not to invest in an action that is capable of spreading COVID to some of the most health-vulnerable members of our community — Aboriginal Australians.

Our nation provides the right for us to celebrate Australia Day how we see fit.



My Local NSW National World Opinion Business Entertainment Lifestyle Sport



one has the right to attempt to gaslight you into believing you are celebrating genocide if you eat some lamb or sport an Aussie stick-on tattoo on January 26.

It is everybody's choice as to how they choose to recognise what Australia Day means to them.

By all means choose how you wish but do not impose your choices on others; and don't put others lives at risk.

I will be celebrating Australia Day with my Warlpiri, Celtic, Mauritian, Asian and African family. I urge everybody else to come together with the people most important to them, and celebrate what Australia is and help foster what it can be.

Jacinta Nampijinpa Price is Deputy-Mayor of Alice Springs and Director of the indigenous Research Program at the Centre for Independent Studies.



Jacinta Price

Contributor

More Coverage

['Always going to run': Caddick's brother-in-law](#)

Join the conversation (253 comments)

More related stories



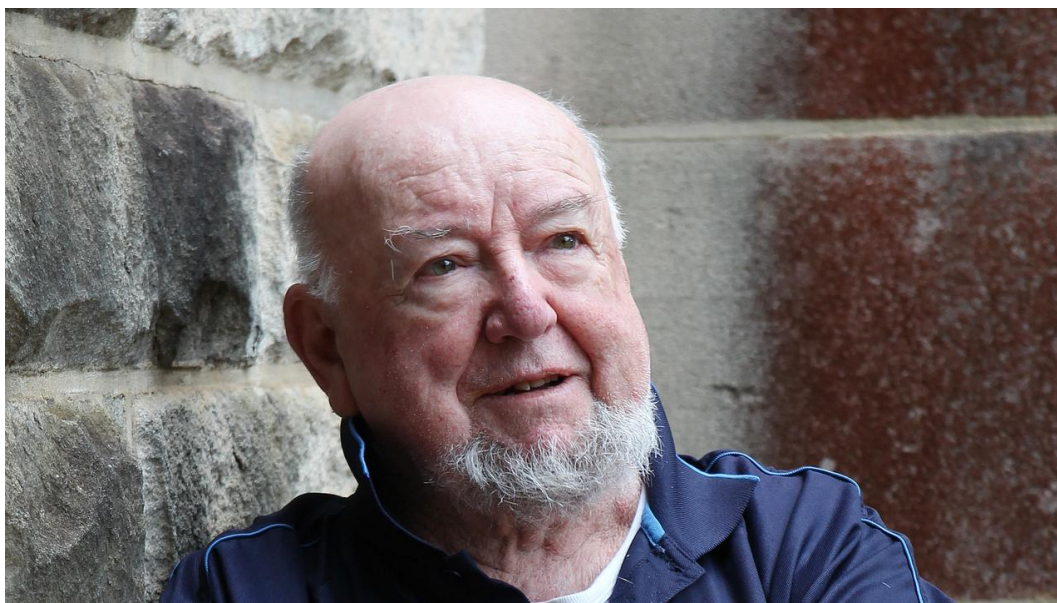


Opinion

Woke Cricket Australia in need of third umpire review

Cricket's success is based on the patriotism of fans who want to see Australia win, but the sport now turns its back against those fans and Australia Day, writes Tim Blair.

□ 46



QLD News

We are so lucky to be one and free

As we prepare to celebrate Australia Day acclaimed author Thomas Keneally says the nation is a success story but there's still much work to do.

□ 15

Good Afternoon Margaret Recommended based on what you've read





Backstage photo exposes McGregor truth



Wife's golden reaction to Conor KO



Conor McGregor exposed as a fraud

Promoted Content

Mocktail manufacturer making a metza

MURRAY MANUFACTURED MAKING A MULE

Trending now

News

Australia Day 2021: ABC removes the term 'Invasion Day' from...



Sport

NRL 2021: Corey Norman and James Segeyaro allegedly involved...



Truecrimeaustralia

Concord home invasion: Alleged attacker of 92yo woman refuse...



News

Peter Fegan: Former Seven News reporter avoids conviction ov...



Blogs

Monday Noticeboard Telegraph



Most commented

ABC's Australia Day language slammed as 'divisive'

808

They Think It's All Over – and Then It Is

154

UK strain found in Australian Open cases

126

Cricket Australia committee member caught by hypocrisy

125

Invasion Broadcasting Corporation

64

Membership

Subscription Packages

Group/Corporate subscriptions

The Daily Telegraph app

Today's Paper

Newsletters

My Tributes

Rewards

About Us

About us

Meet the team

Job opportunities

Code of conduct

Subscriptions FAQs

Subscription terms

App only subscription terms

Financial Hardship Policy

Contact Us

Help & support

FAQs

Letter to the Editor

Photo Sales

Advertise with

Our News Network

Herald Sun

Courier Mail

The Advertiser

news.com.au

The Australian

The Mercury

Geelong Advertiser

The Cairns Post

Gold Coast Bulletin

Townsville Bulletin

The Chronicle

Our Partners

Buy Search Sell

Find Your Local

Foxsports

Foxtel

Hipages

Kayo

Punters

odds.com.au

racenet.com.au

realestate.com.au

Our Apps



NT News

The Weekly
Times

A NOTE ABOUT RELEVANT ADVERTISING: We collect information about the content (including ads) you use across this site and use it to make both advertising and content more relevant to you on our network and other sites. Find out more about our policy and your choices, including how to opt-out.

Nationwide News Pty Ltd © 2020. All times AEST (GMT +10). Powered by WordPress.com VIP

[Privacy policy](#) [Relevant ads opt-out](#) [Cookie policy](#) [Terms of use](#)