



ABOUT RECONCILIATION AUSTRALIA

Reconciliation Australia is a non-government, not-for-profit organisation with a focus on closing the 17-year gap in life expectancy between Indigenous and non-Indigenous children.

Because achieving this objective involves all sectors of the Australian community, Reconciliation Australia works by forming partnerships for success with corporations, Indigenous and non-Indigenous organisations, government and community groups, as well as individuals.

40th anniversary of the 1967 Referendum

Sunday 27 May 2007 marks the 40th anniversary of Australia's most successful referendum where more than 90% of voters said YES that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be counted in the national census of the Australian population. It also gave the Commonwealth Government the power to make specific laws regarding Indigenous people.

The referendum was built on the back of conversations in kitchens, community halls, and workplaces. It was the first referendum campaign in Australia to start that way, and it still is our only constitutional change prompted not by government, but by the people.

This year's 40th anniversary is an opportunity to tell wonderful stories to Australians everywhere about the kind of respectful relationships on which success is founded. If Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians working side by side in the referendum campaign 40 years ago could achieve such a resounding result, we can do a great deal today to realise the vision of equality of all those Australians who voted YES in 1967.

TOO BIG A STORY

For more information about Reconciliation Australia and the 40th anniversary of the 1967 Referendum go to reconciliation.org.au

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