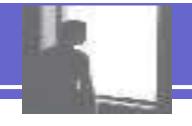
Alliance for Forgotten Australians



Lifetime impacts of children's experience of trauma in 'care' – Forgotten Australians' struggle for identity and wellbeing

AFA © Caroline Carroll



Committed to an Institution

RECEPTION PLEASE ENTER.

NSW Children's Court file stamp 'committed to an Institution.'



Who are the Forgotten Australians?

Forgotten Australians and British Child Migrants: in brief





Impoverished childhood

Sign found in many institutions across Australia



Overview: impacts of 'care' experiences

Loss of identity Poor self esteem Little or no schooling Difficulties with personal relationships Poor health and wellbeing **Complex trauma and mental illness** Risk taking behaviours **High risk of homelessness** Early onset ageing

Royal Commission

Yet another Inquiry

What benefit will it bring for Forgotten Australians

Terms of reference limitations

Fear

Re-traumatisation

Hope that it will make things better for young people

Will it provide justice

Any nation that does not care for and protect all of its children does not deserve to be called a nation

Nelson Mandela

References

Australian Senate, 2004, Forgotten Australians: A report on Australians who experienced institutional or out-of-home care as children. Canberra, Australia.

Fogarty, J. 2008. Some aspects of early history in child protection in Australia, *in Family Matters*, 2008 No. 78, pp: 52-59.

Holden, R., 1999, *Orphans of history: the forgotten children of the First Fleet.* Penguin Australia.

The Alliance for Forgotten Australians

Chair: Caroline Carroll

E: ccarroll@openplace.org.au

Secretariat:

Phone: +61 62734885

E: stella.conroy@familiesaustralia.org.au

www.forgotten australians.org.au