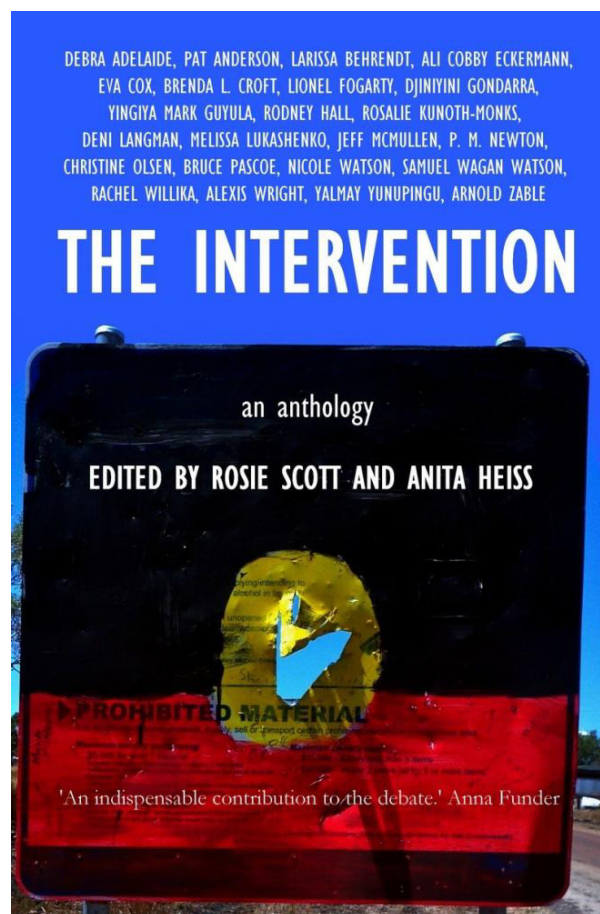


The Intervention an Anthology

'Australian writers collaborate to assail Government policy on Aboriginal people'. Jeff McMullen presents select readings from a new anthology, *The Intervention*.

"The Intervention to us was like Australia declaring war on us and in the process they demonised and dehumanised Aboriginal men, women and children."

– Rosalie-Kunoth Monks – Arrernte-Alyawarra Elder, Northern Territory Australian of the year and NAIDOC person of 2015



June 21 [marked] eight years since the introduction of one of Australia's most racist government policies, – the Northern Territory National Emergency Response package – otherwise known as the NT Intervention. Many Australians are still waiting for the outcry over the suspension of the Race Discrimination Act which allowed this legislation to pass, not once, but twice. In 2012, the Intervention was renamed "Stronger Futures" and designed to impinge further on the human rights of those in remote communities for another decade. Award-winning and internationally recognised Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australian authors and commentators have taken a stand the best way they can, by using the power of their writing to generate much needed discussion and debate – in homes, universities and in work places. ...

<http://www.fnawn.com.au/the-intervention-anthology-released-june-2015/>

One of the most invasive, puzzling and unprecedented actions by a government in Australian history – the 2007 NT Intervention by the Howard Government - has resulted in an ongoing and flagrant breach of human rights. The introduction of this racist legislation has never been fully debated nationally nor has there ever been any significant consultation with the Indigenous communities most affected.

In this historic anthology, award-winning writers Dr Anita Heiss and Rosie Scott have gathered together the work of twenty of Australia's finest writers both Indigenous and non-Indigenous together with powerful statements from Northern Territory Elders to bring a new dimension and urgency to an issue that has remained largely outside the public radar.

In compelling fiction, memoir, essays, poetry and communiqués, the dramatic story of the Intervention and the despair, anguish and anger of the First Nations People of the Territory comes alive.

The Intervention: an Anthology is a unique document – deeply moving, impassioned, spiritual, angry and authoritative – it's essential reading for anyone who wants to understand this passionate opposition.

Comprehensive compilation about The Intervention Anthology:

<http://www.respectandlisten.org/nt-intervention/intervention-anthology.html>

"I have spent decades working with Aboriginal people and the constant struggle that they have is not only to have their voice heard, but it is also to be truly recognised and understood. I think this book will have a very useful place. I hope it goes into many Australian homes, but at the moment anyone who is studying law, anyone who is going into medicine, or is going to be on the frontline of the real emergency - which is the health crisis, where life is collapsing in our fourth world poverty. Those people need to understand the politics of now. This is twenty first political oppression in a country which is blessed with so much opportunity. We should not have poverty at all."

Jeff McMullen

<http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/2015/07/03/call-new-debate-interventions-impacts>

Book review by the Sydney Morning Herald

Eight years after the federal government sent troops and police into Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory, the verdict is grim. Almost none of the recommendations in the report Little Children Are Sacred, which was cited as the motivation for the intervention, have been addressed. Co-author of the report, Pat Anderson, concludes that the intervention was "neither well-intentioned nor well evidenced". Her disturbing conclusion is that it was driven by the Howard government's desire to undermine land rights, an ideological campaign dressed up as concern for child welfare. According to Rosalie Kunoth-Monks, from Utopia, the intervention only further traumatised Aboriginal people, fuelling anger and despair. The key message in essay after essay in this collection is that the intervention failed. It was a heavy-handed, political quick fix that has fixed almost nothing.

<http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/books/in-short-nonfiction-book-reviews-20150622-ghrq1k.html#ixzz3eJArDBDx>

The voices in *The Intervention-An Anthology* will shout out from any bookshelf upon which it is placed, they will reverberate in your sleep and sing into your dreams the disturbing facts of the Northern Territory Emergency Response and the Stronger Futures legislation so that you awaken to a new dawn where the sun's rays do not hold the same lucky promise for every Australian, by design.

<http://blogs.crikey.com.au/croakey/2015/06/28/read-and-listen-to-the-hurt-hearts-and-sad-voices-in-this-new-book-the-intervention-an-anthology/>