



Module C

Question 6

Elective 1

23/10/02

To the Organiser of 'Something to Say'

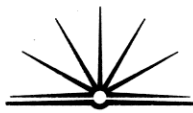
Hello and greetings, I am writing to you today to explain what, the Institutions and Personal Experience program ~~now~~ means to me and what I have learnt by ~~reading~~ the text State of Shock By Tony Strachan a play, and why it should be included in your program.

The play 'State Of Shock' By Tony Strachan details the events of a young man's life 'Eddie Thomas' and the effects the institution of 'The Cheka Aboriginal Reserve' has had on him and many like him. Eddie was taken out of his natural land and imprisoned on this Government land, not



aloud to wander or leave it. The effects of this sent Eddie to drinking, violence, and caused him to steal for things he didn't even want. ~~This~~ In scene 7 of Act 1, the play climaxes when Eddie is in a drunken state and kills his girlfriend 'Doreen'. Eddie is sent to prison for this. Act 2 deals with the Aboriginal Human Rights Committee helping Eddie to get out ^{by blaming the institution}. Eddie succeeds and is granted parole. By doing this Eddie "learns to read, ride horses, and even gets a job. He gets back ~~in~~ in touch with his spiritual side the play commences saying "He didn't feel like fighting the island boys anymore".

This play shows the effects of the institution, ^{White on the reserve} Eddie experienced loss of "spiritual and cultural identity" Eddie experienced racism, O'Connor the public



servant called them "little black abbos" and believed they should be "tamed" his quote exactly.

The play shows how happy Eddie was in nature with Doreen saying "Why you smile you always smile in da bush". It shows his attraction to nature and the bush.

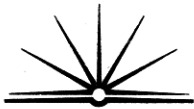
The related texts I am including are a video called "The Hurricane" and an interview with "Brian Morley - The Stolen Children - One man's Story".

The video 'The Hurricane' relates to institutions and the play, it revolves around a bove Rubin "Hurricane" Carter who was racially convicted of killing ~~2~~ three white people in a bar. The movie is set in the 1960's. 20 years later Rubin fought the government system and was sent free. Eddie relates to Rubin Carter through

them both being sent to prison, both were racially discriminated against, both fought the government institution of a prison and were both sent free.

The second related text I have chosen is an interview with 'Brian Morley' called The Stolen Generation - One Man's Story

This interview details Brian Morley's life, and the hardships he has faced. Brian was taken from his family in the 1960's and adopted out to a white family. He was not told of his aboriginal identity until he was older but he "always knew he was different," he commented. When he was old enough he contacted his birth mother he spent only 10 years with her before she died. The government institution that took Brian away caused him to feel a loss of cultural & spiritual identity which relates to Edolie. Brian



was taken out of his natural ~~the~~ land and "put into an alien society a white society" as he calls it.

Brian Morley now writes songs and poems of his life and past. This relates to Eddie for after Eddie was free from his institution he too wrote poem and songs focusing on his people and life.

These are the reasons ^{why} I think "The Institution and personal Experiences" should be included in your program.

Thank you for reading your letter

Yours Sincerely

Mary Moppet.