

Dear Sir/Madam

Attached is a letter from Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages Victoria, dated 9th May 20024, refusing to reissue [REDACTED] death certificate listing her [REDACTED] children on her death certificate, showing their ages at the time of [REDACTED] death. [REDACTED] died at the young age of 36 years.

[REDACTED] was stolen from [REDACTED], from Lake Tyers, along with [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

When [REDACTED] children were born in the Royal Woman's Hospital, Carlton, the police immediately made the children State Wards, and [REDACTED] never got to take them home.

[REDACTED]

All [REDACTED] children are second-generation members of the Stolen-Generations and it took us approximately 25 years to track down [REDACTED]

The past few months have been filled with grief for our family. We lost [REDACTED] on 22nd Oct 2023, aged 63 and [REDACTED], on 23rd November 2023, aged 66.

I'm not sure how these deaths impacted [REDACTED] health. It would be safe to say that it would have affected her health and on 8th May 2024, Helen [REDACTED], aged 71.

[REDACTED] all died young as a result of the trauma (Stolen Generations and Intergenerational) that they were forced to live with since birth.

I hope Birth, Deaths, and Marriages, Victoria are satisfied with the additional unnecessary stress that they caused [REDACTED] family.

I have been handling all matters relating to [REDACTED] funeral and estate.

I needed evidence that [REDACTED] was [REDACTED] oldest living next of kin and requested that B, Ds & M's reissue Nellie's death certificate listing all [REDACTED] of

Stolen Generations Summation:-

This is probably the best summary that I've come across as regards the impact on their lives for members of the Stolen Generation:-

" all the children of the Stolen Generation suffered the fate of orphans who, deprived of family by natural catastrophe or human failure, are institutionalised. Two factors made the lot of Aborigines much grimmer: they were not orphans but captives, and they were totally 'removed' from their own cultural traditions - language, beliefs, ways of seeing and doing - and then actively encouraged to despise and to feel shame rather than pride in their roots. Having successfully been made to believe that black was white, they were then thrust defenceless into the 'real' white world where their assimilation proved to be an illusion and they were despised for being black. Hence they found no acceptance and felt completely disoriented. But the knowledge of where they did belong had been stolen too. They seemed to have been denied their place in the universe." [Norst, M J : Burnum Burnum, East Roseville, NSW : Simom & Schuster (Australia) P/L 1999, pages 22 - 23]