

Submission to Yoorrook Justice Commission**From: Abe Schwarz****Dated: 25 November 2024****Submission:****What do you know about the colonisation of Victoria and its impacts on First Peoples?**

Taking a Youth Services management job in Campaspe Local Government and moving to Echuca, I had the privilege of meeting some wonderful people from the Yorta Yorta mob. Through these friendships, I developed an understanding of the colonisation experiences and a particular relationship with Uncle Alf "Boydie" Turner, spending much of the past 20 years Truth-Telling with him the stories of his esteemed Grandfather, esteemed Elder and political activist Uncle William Cooper (1860-1941) and of the oral history of many early members of the then-Australian Aborigines' League (AAL). The horrific impacts and colonisation suffered have continued in memories to this day... one wonders whether the AAL's 1930's call to a Voice in Parliament may be eventually fulfilled.

END OF SUBMISSION