

By Suzanne Dance

As a means of providing a platform in Parliament for First Nations people, implementation of The Voice is the least Australia can do. Maybe as John Howard said, we're not responsible for the actions of our forebears but it is hard to deny that as descendants of Colonisation we have profited and are still profiting from our occupation and usurping of First Nations lands. For this alone (apart from the many other atrocities they have endured over the years) we owe the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

For the LNP to continue to ask for more detail before committing to the concept of The Voice is disingenuous, an attempt it would seem to delay, if not sabotage the forthcoming Referendum.

There is enough information in supporting documents such as the Indigenous Voice Co-design Process (July 2021) to form the basis for The Voice given that once the Referendum is successful no doubt details will be thoroughly hammered out in Parliament.

As The Voice from my reading appears to be a purely advisory body whose recommendations can be adopted or not by the government of the day, it seems churlish, going on vengeful for the Opposition to object to it .