



# The Australian Journal of **INDIGENOUS EDUCATION**

This article was originally published in printed form. The journal began in 1973 and was titled *The Aboriginal Child at School*. In 1996 the journal was transformed to an internationally peer-reviewed publication and renamed *The Australian Journal of Indigenous Education*.

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**THE HON GORDON M. BRYANT, M.P.,  
MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS**

When I discussed Dr. Betty Watts' proposal for this journal with her my pleasure that someone was taking up this task was tinged with the envy of a former teacher who would like to be doing it himself.

It is a work of great importance. A considerable body of research findings relating to the education of Aboriginal children is being accumulated, but despite occasional seminars and the like, all too seldom do the results reach practising teachers. Teachers of Aboriginals are often in isolation from their professional colleagues. This journal will be tremendously useful in increasing teachers' insight into the problems and to help give direction to their efforts.

The journal will provide a unique service for practising teachers in this and in other aspects of education for the Aboriginal people, and I hope that teachers will use it actively as a forum for discussion as well as a source of information.

I am delighted that this initiative in educational journalism is being undertaken by someone as enthusiastic and academically distinguished as Dr. Watts and I very much hope that teachers will play their part in making it interesting to themselves and useful in their work.

*Postscript:*

I invite teachers interested in work with Aboriginal students to send me their thoughts.

Gordon M. Bryant  
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

*This letter from the then, Minister for Aboriginal  
Affairs Mr Gordon M. Bryant accompanied the  
Editorial in Volume 1 number 1 1973*