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Review of Post Arrival Programs and Services to Migrants

(1977 - 1978)

Born	19770901, Canberra Australian Capital Territory Australia
Died	19780427
Occupation	government review

Summary

The review of Post Arrival Programs and Services to Migrants was established by Cabinet decision and announced by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Malcolm Fraser, on August 31, 1977. Established in order to ensure that the changing needs of migrants were being met by available resources, the review was conducted under prime ministerial authority in order to circumvent some allegedly obstructionist senior bureaucrats in the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs. The first meeting of the Review Group, which was chaired by Mr Frank Galbally, C.B.E, was held on 1 September 1977. The committee of review consulted widely, seeking submissions from individuals and organisations, government and non-government. Advice from migrant community groups was actively sought.

The report brought down by the review group, *Migrant Services and Programs*, was submitted to the Prime Minister on 27 April 1978 and tabled by him on 30 May 1978. It was made available in Arabic, Dutch, English, German, Greek, Italian, Serbo-Croatian, Spanish, Turkish and Vietnamese. In it, the Review Group came down with a total number of fifty-seven recommended improvements to programs and services involving expenditure of about $50 million in such areas as initial settlement and education, especially the teaching of English, with emphasis placed on the role of ethnic communities themselves, and other levels of government, to encourage multiculturalism.

Of particular significance to migrant women was recommendation number 43, which stated ‘the implementation of the general recommendations of the Report, which have been framed in recognition of the special problems of migrant women, should take particular account of their needs’.

Conducted at a time, according to the committee, when Australia was ‘at a critical stage in the development of a cohesive, united, multicultural nation’, the Galbally review of Post Arrival Programs and Services to Migrants marks an important development in the evolution of Australian official policy towards settlers from one of assimilation to multiculturalism. Its pointed reference to the needs of women also marked a moment when ethnic and gender politics connected.

Published resources

Book Section
Double Disadvantage: Migrant and Aboriginal Women, Sawer, Marian, 1990

Book
The Origins of Multiculturalism in Australian Politics 1945-1975, Lopez, Mark, 2000

Resource Section
Frank Galbally, Chairman of the Review of Post Arrival Programs and services for Migrants, discussing migrants settlement into Australias way of life, including rights., Galbally, Frank, 2002, http://www.multiculturalaustralia.edu.au/library/library.php?mediaCode=vid&mode=Category&myOption=Interview

Archival resources

National Archives of Australia, Various Locations
Migrant Services and Programs (usually known as "the Galbally Report")

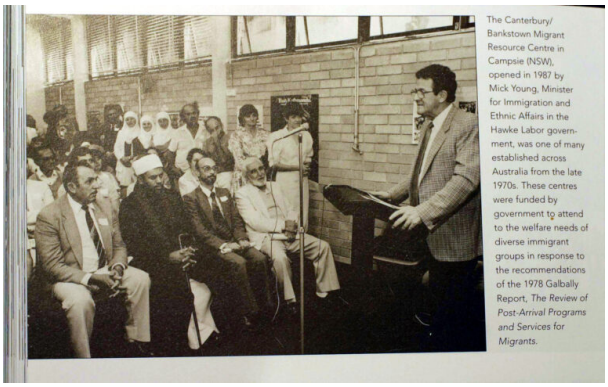
State Library of Victoria
Records, ca. 1981-1997. [manuscript].

Records, 1973-1986. [manuscript]

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Digital resources



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