



North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency



Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Aid Service

NAAJA and CAALAS are the legal aid providers for Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory with offices in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Darwin, Katherine and Nhulunbuy

Research on Policing in Aboriginal Communities

The two Aboriginal legal aid organizations in the Northern Territory (NAAJA and CAALAS) are jointly carrying out a research project into the new police stations built as part the NTER (the Intervention). We're looking at what people living in those communities think of the police and what their experiences are with the police. We're interested in how the police and the community interacts in remote communities, the successes and challenges of remote community policing, and the impacts of these new police stations on community safety and crime.

There has been a lot written about policing of Aboriginal people and communities outside the Northern Territory, and there are a number of theories of Aboriginal policing, including 'over-policing', 'community policing', 'frontier policing' and 'zero-tolerance policing'. However, there isn't much about what happens in Aboriginal communities and we think it is important that Aboriginal people have a voice on policing issues where they live.

As part of the project, we are going to 13 communities between January and June 2009.

At the end of the project, there will be a written report and a presentation. You can request a copy of the report and/or a presentation to you or your organization.

The research is funded by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department. The research is being carried out with the cooperation of the Northern Territory Police Service and the Shire Councils. People's names and the names of the communities are being kept confidential to protect people's privacy.