

These are useful stats when dealing with folk who refuse to see that the "state of emergency" is nought but a **big end of town land grab!** *Northern Land Council's \$600m 'prescribed town' deal* more see:

<http://www.crikey.com.au/Politics/20070706-Northern-Land-Councils-600m-prescribed-town-deal.html>

NT child abuse figures 'not a stand out'

Posted Fri Jul 6, 2007 5:36pm AEST

The co-author of a Commonwealth commissioned child protection report says sex abuse figures for Indigenous children in the Northern Territory are among the lowest in Australia.

Diedre Penhaligon from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare confirmed Indigenous children in suburban Victoria are more at risk than those in the Territory.

Ms Penhaligon says over the last few years the number of child sex abuse reports has risen across Australia, but says the Territory figures are not a stand-out.

"It's certainly possible that the Northern Territory may have been maybe a bit unfairly targeted compared to other jurisdictions," she said.

"It's a problem in every jurisdiction."

"If we look at the Northern Territory about 4 per cent of all substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect were for sexual abuse in Indigenous children.

"But for other children, that is people who haven't identified as being Indigenous, it is actually 9 per cent and that's a pretty consistent finding across all the jurisdictions."

Earlier, a Melbourne University Professor claimed child-sex abuse was five-times more prevalent in Melbourne suburbs.

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2007/07/06/1972244.htm>

Child abuse 'more rampant in suburbs'

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A Melbourne University Professor says child sex abuse in the Northern Territory is less rampant in the Territory than it is in mainstream Australian suburbs.

Professor Peter Botsman says figures from the Commonwealth's '2004/2005 Child Protection Report' show the level of abuse in the Territory's remote Indigenous communities is five times less than in Victoria.

Professor Botsman has just completed a report, called 'Putting Indigenous Child Abuse in the Northern Territory into Perspective'.

He says Indigenous children living in the suburbs along Australia's east coast are the ones at risk.

"It just underlines the ignorance in which the incursion into the Northern Territory has been performed," he said.

"If [John] Howard and [Mal] Brough were really interested in child abuse it would be Queensland and New South Wales and Victoria that they would be working at."

Mr Botsman says the nation's reaction to child sex abuse in the Territory's remote Indigenous communities has been driven by prejudice.

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2007/07/06/1971866.htm>