



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Voice Referendum - How we got here - Why it matters

[Melbourne, 14/11/2023] – A powerful and poignant call for justice and recognition is echoing across Australia as the country prepares for a historic referendum. Common Home tv presents <u>The Voice Referendum - How we got here - Why it matters</u>, which gives an opportunity for an Aboriginal Catholic to speak directly to the nation at this historic moment.

The call for a Voice to Parliament is embodied in this video featuring an impassioned, hope filled message from Aboriginal Catholic Ministry for Victoria's coordinator Sherry Balcombe. This testimonial, from an Aboriginal Catholic leader, reflects on the struggles faced by their communities throughout history, from colonisation and forced removal of children to the ongoing challenges of inequality and social disparities. The message is a plea for justice and equality, an assertion that the referendum is a crucial step towards healing the wounds of the past and building a more inclusive future.

"A tireless advocate for our Indigenous peoples, Aunty Sherry Balcombe from Melbourne's Aboriginal Catholic Ministry sees the debate over the Voice to Parliament as a huge opportunity for Australia to help 'Close the Gap' so our Indigenous peoples can have the same rights and opportunities as the rest of the population." - Bruce Duncan CSsR, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria Chaplin

As the referendum approaches, Australians are called upon to engage in conversations, seek understanding, and participate in shaping a more equitable future for all. The goal is to make this referendum a turning point in Australia's history, a moment when the nation unequivocally acknowledges the importance of an Indigenous voice to parliament.

The video, which encapsulates the spirit of this historic campaign, can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBDyzPhnZNI or on Facebook.

Common Home TV is an apostolate of the Redemptorists of Oceania that aims to provide a platform for quality Catholic video content from producers both national and international. The Redemptorist Provincial's statement on the referendum can be found HERE.