

Letters to The Australian – 21 July 2022

In addition to the valid concerns raised about the voice proposal (Letters, 20/7), there is another question: who is better credentialed to represent the interests of Aboriginal people?

Does it include those of Aboriginal descent who have never lived in a bush community, those who have successfully traversed the gulf between bush community and bigcity life, and now perhaps comprise an Indigenous elite in well-paid jobs in academe or elsewhere, whose everyday lives are vastly different from people living in communities? Or is it Aboriginal leaders drawn from within or close to those communities?

I believe the former is likely to be the outcome if the voice proposal is implemented, and consequently the real needs of people in communities will continue to be inadequately served.

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