



Rights & Freedoms / Referendum

The Performance

'A little girl with a fantastic voice led the singing & we sang Beatles songs all the way back. The spirit was tremendous.' – Moree pool. 1965. Freedom Ride Diary. Ann Curthoys.

Glen Phillips has a degree in acting from Wollongong University. He has toured into schools for twenty years and is a theatre-for-young-people specialist. In **Rights & Freedoms/Referendum** Glen explores the ongoing civil rights movement in Australia.

In 1967 a **Referendum** on aboriginal rights was held. An argument for a NO vote had not been formulated as a majority of politicians had favoured the proposal. The amendment passed in a landslide with 90.77 percent voting for change. Aboriginal people would now be counted in the census & the door was open to further legislate to end discrimination & empower Aboriginal people.

Rights & Freedoms/Referendum looks at the years preceding this historic vote, and the years since. It reflects on the changing attitudes & public awareness in Australia & charts the continuing evolution of the civil rights movement.

Comments from schools

The Rights and Freedoms performance was delivered in such a personable way, and coming from someone who has listened to many an Australian protest tune these past two decades and not been cognizant of the deeper meanings behind the lyrics, I appreciated learning so much more about how Australian protest songs highlighted the injustices here in this nation's history. Coming through Reconciliation Week, National Sorry Day, events in America this past week and Mabo Day today, the Rights and Freedoms performance was such a poignant way to encourage our students to consider varying perspectives and promote cultural understanding here in their own country.

Moreton Bay College

Curriculum Area's Covered

1770-1934. Cpt. Cook. Terra Nullius. The Frontier Wars.

1869. The Stolen Generation.

Boer war – Afghanistan. Black Diggers & the RSL. *In accompanying material.*

1938. The day of mourning. *Covered in accompanying material.*

1939. The Cummeragunja walk-off. *Covered in accompanying material.*

1965. Charlie Perkins & the Freedom ride.

1967. Referendum.

1988. The Barunga Statement. Bob Hawke promises a treaty.

2017. The Uluru Statement from the Heart

THE MUSIC OF CIVIL RIGHTS FROM MIDNIGHT OIL TO BAKER BOY

This presentation makes use of historical primary sources: speeches, songs, poetry, political declarations, reportage, anecdotes, recollection & opinion.

SUITABILITY: Years 7 - 10

DURATION: 55 minutes + 15 min Q&A

COST PER STUDENT: \$7.70 (\$7 + 70c GST)

MINIMUM PER SESSION: \$770 (\$700+ \$70 GST) 100 students or less

NOTES: Teacher Notes provided

REQUIREMENTS: Projector & Screen if possible