Please be advised that this PowerPoint presentation will contain images of people who have died.
My Journey

- In 1972, I became a registered nurse and midwife.
- Worked in communities such as Alice Springs, Palm Island, remote Western Australia and South Australia.
- Volunteer member of the Townsville Aboriginal and Islander Health Service (TAIHS) in 1974, and worked as a volunteer Registered Nurse with two volunteer Doctors.
- Later I became a registered midwife and worked with the Remote Emergency Nursing Services, which took me all over remote Australia delivering babies in the late 1970s and early 1980s, with no benefits of modern technology.
- I have also worked in remote Australia with the late Dr Fred Hollows on the National Trachoma and Eye Health Program.
In 2011, I completed my PhD Thesis *Human Rights and First Australians Well-being*. In 2015 my PhD was published by Routledge in London as a hardback monograph. The publication is titled *Indigenist Critical Realism*. 
I have dealt with almost every disease, both nationally and internationally, however I have never been able to come to terms with the ugly disease of racism.
Blood on the Wattle - Third Edition
Massacres and Maltreatment of Aboriginal Australians since 1788
Background

Adds developed in 1987 addressing HIV/AIDS

• For example Grim Reaper advertisement

However, this advertisement was not applicable to Indigenous Australians
Aims

1. Develop a culturally appropriate HIV/AIDS awareness program in relation to remote North Queensland Indigenous Communities

2. Implement the program in targeted remote North Queensland Indigenous communities

3. Assess the program impact within these communities
3 main phases of Development

• Consultation

• Development of audio-visual testing

• Market testing of materials and community feedback
5 Day Structure

• Education sessions on HIV/AIDS
• Development of graphics
• Market testing of graphics
• Development of audio resources
• Development of program implementation strategy and evaluation strategy
• Along with other Community Representatives
Masters of Science in Public Health for work in North Queensland Indigenous Communities (1993)

Eddie Savage
SHARING NEEDLES
WANNA HIT?
NO WAY BUD—THAT'S NOT KORIE CULTURE
SPREADS AIDS
STOP AIDS

What are we doing about it?

NSW

NT
Report in Townsville Bulletin 29.11.89 about
Condaman T-shirts.

Diverse Frieda with Condaman T-shirt. Wh her is Ms Grace Smallwood.

WHO supports the Condaman

MOVE over Grim Reaper: you've been outdone by the new black superman in the battle against AIDS.

Condaman, the phantasmagorical character who wears people in 'use frenclies', has become an international hero.

While the grim Grim Reaper campaign cost millions of dollars in advertising expenses, Condaman was born in Townsville on a budget of nothing.

It was the brainchild of a group of Townsville Aborigines and Islanders looking to start their own campaign.

Condaman has been taken up by the World Health Organisation and his message is reaching millions of people around the world.

AIDS consultant for the Townsville Aboriginal and Islander Child Care Agency and WHO Ms Grace Smallwood said there had been concern Aborigines and Islanders would not relate to the Grim Reaper campaign.

"In the case of Aborigines and Islanders we got together and we did our own campaign," she said.

"Myself and a health team have covered 16 remote communities in North and western Queensland to promote AIDS awareness.

Condaman was taken to the World Health Organisation conference in Sydney last year and won instant acceptance.

"The Condaman poster has gone," she said.
And we took it to the BRONX! In USA!

- Thomas Pryor, Palm Island
- 2 Community workers
- African AIDS researchers
I was invited to be special guest for the then South African President, Mr Nelson Mandela in 1997, and used the time speaking with activists including the sons of the late Steve Biko, and giving HIV-AIDS prevention talks and workshops. I was one of the small group of health practitioners who understood the risk of HIV-AIDS in Indigenous communities, and we devised the now mainstream and famous *Condoman* to promote safe sex in a culturally appropriate way.
What our Media Package contained

• AIDS Action and Planning Manual

• Condoman Poster

• “Which way” Poster

• Facts about AIDS poster

• “Just one more” poster

• “Drink little bit”

• “Grog kills skills”

• Don’t drink n drive whilst charging on
NO CONDOM — NO WAY!

WE GO PARTY ON BEACH.

HEY WHICH WAY? WHAT YOU DOING?

YOU AND WHO?

ME AND MY FRIENDS!

NO MORE SHAME-JOB YOU BEEN LISTENING TO TALK ON AIDS.

NO CONDOM — NO WAY!

YOU CAN'T CURE AIDS, YOU CAN ONLY BE CAREFUL!
NACCHO Aboriginal Eye Health: Why is trachoma blinding Aboriginal children when mainstream Australia eliminated it 100 years ago?

Source: Naccho Communique
The Toxic Pipeline for Our Youth

-Disconnected from school → no job → prison
-Half of the 10 to 17 year-olds in jails are Aboriginal
-We make up 30% of all the people in prison
The Virtuous Pipeline

- Connected → Retained → Educated → Job
My Message:

• to the world is equally simple - do not join the Restoration.
• do not help the process of oppression in doing things to your own people.
• stop the rubbish about “passive welfare”
• Welfare is not the problem.
• to Close the Gap, First Nation Peoples need quality health, education, jobs and most importantly, a Treaty on equal terms.
In order to close the gap we need to firstly address the social and cultural determinants that allow my people to start on a level playing field.

We cant manage our chronic disease if we don’t have access to the basic essentials in life – education, employment, and housing.

That means we need to address the inequity that that exists within our various systems be it health, education, legal, child protection.

That’s going to require more than Close the Gap targets developed by mainstream bureaucrats - its going to require both the financial and policy instruments to work together not in competition to each other and genuine engagement with grassroot communities.
Gracelyn ‘Gullidala’ Smallwood