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Despite being seen as an egalitarian society, inequality exists in Australia. Inequality ~~occurs~~ occurs in Australia through differing socio-economic status of different people. ~~It~~ ^{Those} affected by inequality are those in rural locations west of the Great Dividing Range in NSW, Indigenous Australians and ~~the~~ people with low socio-economic status and money. Areas that the people are affected by are Health, Housing, Employment, ~~and~~ Education and Legal representation/services. These individuals ~~can~~ can live life being affected by both the wheel of discrimination and the cycle of inequality.

The rural population of New South Wales has less access to health services than the urban population. Residents in rural locations are 30-300% more likely to not survive a diagnosis of cancer and as a result have a lower quality of life than urban residents. The same problem exists for Indigenous Australians. Without any action through government, such as healthcare schemes in ~~the~~ rural locations, the life expectation will continue to drop for the individuals facing this inequality and quality of life will also continue to drop, possibly causing a ^{further} shift to ~~more~~ ^{a higher} urban population.

The socially valued resource (SVR) ~~the~~ employment is also a source of ~~the~~ inequality for Indigenous Australians. The unemployment rate of Indigenous Australians in 2006 was 19%, compared to the 5% of the rest of the population. ~~The~~ The lack of addressing this issue could cause Indigenous Australians to get caught in the cycle of ~~the~~ inequality, in which they are limited by their unemployed status to a lower quality

of life, without a large enough income, they would have to depend on the government to provide housing and live below their means, with low socio economic status.

Additionally, education is another area that indigenous people face inequality. 25% of indigenous students complete year 12 as opposed to 48% of other students. This in turn, as a part of the cycle of inequality, provides these people with less opportunity for employment. Without employment, they will be forced to live below their means. Also, ~~with little~~ ^{with little} ~~education~~ ^{education} through this they will have low socio-economic status. Being limited to ^{unskilled,} entry-level jobs or social welfare, indigenous peoples would then become a part of the lowest 20% of ^{income} earners who only account for 1% of ~~total networth~~ ^{total networth} as they will have low incomes. They will have inequality relative to the top 20% that account for 60% of total networth. This is not the case for indigenous Australians only but also all Australians with no employment or entry level employment and poor education.

Further, education is not of the same standard in the compulsory stages. Public schools do not receive equal funding when compared to private and semi-private schools. This causes ~~some~~ inequality in employment

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and socio-economic status as students of private schools often receive better quality education to others.

In conclusion, the quality of life for indigenous peoples and those of low socioeconomic status will continue to decline and the inequality of all aspects will increase if not addressed by; the government through legislation and social welfare, and society through community initiatives and affirmative action.

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