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The historic Mabo decision of the High Court on the 3rd of June 1992 was the impetus for such legislation as the 1993 Native Title Act. ~~This~~ This has had an incredibly large impact on Australian indigenous communities such as the Yarrabak community in Cairns Queensland as well as the Noongar people in Western Australia. The Mabo decision overturned "Terra Nullius" that had previously ripped apart Indigenous culture and identity, providing communities with the opportunity to "reclaim land, reclaim spirit".

Along with the Native Title Act of 1993 there has been media and farming responses which have also impacted these communities access to native Title.

Mick Gooda ~~believes~~ (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner) believes that native title is "more than a recognition of property

interests, it's more about the recognition of our human rights". This is precisely the view of the community in Yarrabban. Mayor Percy Neal states that "security of land meant security of mind". Native title for the community has come about as a result of the continuous and dedicated hard work of ~~the~~ Mabo and his historic win. ~~As~~ It has provided Yarrabat locals with opportunities to <sup>finally</sup> feel at home. Robert Sand, an elder of the community believes that due to the win "people will respect our land and respect the environment". There are however, differing views in the Advisor on June 10<sup>th</sup> 2009, ~~on~~ native title was described as "a considerable restraint on investment". This conveys the media's non-indigenous portrayal which makes the differing views of land ~~use~~ use evident. Indigenous people describe the land as part of them and hence are emotional

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When it comes to Native Title Robert Sands states the return of land was "a formal recognition of their attachment to and traditional ownership of country?"  
The ~~the~~ <sup>Mahos' will</sup> will not only provide cultural reconnection, but opens up the potential for economic development.

Yarrabah Council is now considering tourism opportunities which will have an extremely large impact upon their lives. After negotiating Indigenous Land Use Agreements with companies such as Channel 7 and Telstra, the community is starting to realise the economic potential. Mayor Percy Neal says, "When it comes to the traditional land owner it gives them an opportunity to get into economic development". They will be able to maintain

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a secure base to improve their socioeconomic status. As a result the community will have the opportunity to develop their own properties, make them feel at home. Their ownership of land will be an opportunity to get into small business, employment and improve quality of life.

Although for the Yarrabak community the Native title legislation has proven to be largely positive in Western Australia it will not achieve the greatest results. The Noongar people are currently undergoing negotiations with the Western Australian State government in the hope to work together and achieve a greater outcome with all involved. Glen Kelly CEO of the Western Land and Sea Council describes the project as more than about money, rather "support for community and culture.". He

emphasises that the negotiations will allow for an increase in health and education projects that will largely benefit the area. The <sup>national</sup> Native Title Tribunal, <sup>(NNTT)</sup> which has been set up as a response to Mabo, here is proven to not effectively achieve the best outcome for the community. Yarraban Mayor Perry Neal ~~at~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ agreed to an entente saying that "it's sad these things seem to take so long, it's inevitable that people pass on". The NNTT takes a long time to settle claims, but according to the Noongar people it is not the best idea for them. Through negotiations they may ~~retain~~ ~~more~~ ~~land~~, greater compensation as well as government support. Through working with the government they ~~will~~ ~~be~~ ~~able~~ ~~to~~ ~~co-~~manage the national park, ~~with~~ which will provide job opportunities.

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Legislation such as the Native title amendment Act of 1998 has made it more ~~certar~~ secure for farmers ~~to~~ to use their land, whilst making the process for Indigenous people more tedious. However despite this, in Cape York the cattlemen's union, conservationists and Native title claimants are working together. It seems that although Native Title is effective for some communities like Yawrrabak, it is not always the best option. The amendment act got a lot of attention from the media, which describes all Native title claims as "battles" (Sun Herald, 31 March 2008). This divides the Indigenous and non-Indigenous community on the issue, which creates problems for native title claimants.



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In conclusion, Native  
Title which came from Mabo's  
decision ~~can~~ can have  
both extremely positive  
impacts, but is not only.