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2012 HSC - Aboriginal Studies
Band 3/4

Sample 3 Question 16(a)

a) There are a number of reasons why aboriginal people are over represented in the criminal justice system and all these reasons arose from the colonisation of Australia. Today, aboriginal people make up 24% of the prison population. Dispossession from land, loss of culture, ~~loss~~ loss of family ties, loss of dreaming, introduction of Alcohol and developed racism and discrimination all lead to why Aboriginal people are over-represented in the criminal justice system. These issues which arose out of the colonisation of Australia are still affecting us today as they have not been fixed or mended. Families who lost their land and culture ~~which~~ ~~were~~ were torn apart leaving many people with nothing to lose so they go do something stupid, loss of family ties leave people feeling like they are in this world alone so they often look for

Drugs or alcohol, which in turn leads to criminal behaviour.

Modern Day discrimination and racism often pushes people over the edge, and in some cases aboriginal people are wrongly accused.

Due to this large representation of Aboriginal people in the criminal justice system the ages for ^{young} offenders is becoming lower and the rate of reoffenders is high.

All these issues can be linked back to the problems caused by the colonisation of Australia.

b) Government programs and strategies have been somewhat successful in addressing criminal justice issues faced by the Wiradjuri people in the Dubbo and surrounding areas and also the ~~toke~~ Lakota people of North America.

One strategy that has been put in place is the introduction of circle sentencing which originated

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