



Archived at the Flinders Academic Commons:
<http://hdl.handle.net/2328/27231>

This is a scan of a document number DUN/Speeches/0725
in the Dunstan Collection, Special Collections, Flinders University Library.
<http://www.flinders.edu.au/library/info/collections/special/dunstan/>

Title:
Press statement - Discrimination

Please acknowledge the source as:
Dunstan Collection, Flinders University Library.
Identifier: DUN/Speeches/0725

© Copyright Estate Donald Allan Dunstan

PRESS STATEMENT: 22/1/71.

FROM: THE PREMIER (MR. DUNSTAN).

Pr.D. 10/71.

The Premier (Mr. Dunstan) today strongly denied allegations by an Adelaide man that the South Australian Housing Trust and the Premier's Department had failed to find his family accommodation because he was married to a part-aborigine.

Mr. Dunstan said the claims made by Mr. C. Hutchins, of the Adelaide suburb of Kilburn, had no basis whatsoever.

He said following investigations by his Department it was revealed that Mr. Hutchins had applied to the South Australian Housing Trust on October 26th last year for accommodation in the Elizabeth area.

"He was told at that time the waiting list for everyone was between nine and twelve months."

Mr. Dunstan said that at the time of application Trust officers had no knowledge of the fact that Mrs. Hutchins was part-aborigine.

"This would in no way have affected their application, in any case.

"Yesterday Mr. Hutchins came to my Department asking for help in finding accommodation, and was extended the same courtesy any other person would have received.

"His name was taken and placed with those of numerous other people also wanting a home.

"In fact yesterday the same officer who interviewed Mr. Hutchins saw at least five other families needing accommodation.

"One of those families had six children, two of whom required regular hospital treatment, but because of an acute housing shortage they received no more favours than Mr. Hutchins.

"Under South Australian legislation it is an offence to discriminate against people because of race or colour of skin.

"If Mr. Hutchins feels he has been discriminated against because his wife is a part-aborigine he should notify the Attorney-General.

Mr. Dunstan said that the South Australian Housing Trust had this financial year had a record number of applications for homes, far in excess of its possible building programme.

"This is despite the fact that the South Australian Government devotes a larger proportion of loan monies to housing than any other State.

"If there is a case of discrimination the alleged offenders will be taken to court at Government expense".