



# NATIONAL WALK FOR VALUES PERTH

**Saturday, 12 April 2008 – Perth**

**Summary of Talk given by  
Jim Morrison**

Jim Morrison began by inviting us to understand something of the history of the Aboriginal people of Australia from the stand- point of Truth. He gave an overview of the need for reconciliation and its importance to the Aboriginal people – of the need for acknowledging the past so that we can learn from our mistakes and go on and make a better world.

He acknowledged his fellow speakers as follows:

*“Let me also acknowledge my co speakers - they are just MOODITJ, Mooditj is a Noongar word for excellent. What a humbling experience to share the podium with Darren LOMMAN a Western Australian of the Year and Dr Fiona WOOD an Australian of the Year.”*

*This mob must think I'm alright to share the podium with these MOODITJ Western Australians hey? I must be Mooditj too hey?*

*Can I also acknowledge the work and words of Darren and to also let you know what an amazing coincidence this is for me because I also work in the area of Disabilities? “*

Jim then invited us as West Australians, as Australians, to reconcile with Aboriginal Australia the oldest living Culture on this planet. He mentioned that this week in the local paper it was said that cutting tools found in the Pilbara, after dating techniques applied, dated back 35,000 years, also sometime back down at Devil's Lair near Margaret River tools were dated back to 44,000 years similar dating of tool in Lake Mungo in NSW and Arnhem Land dates back 60,000 years.

*"We must celebrate and be proud of....yes be proud of the OLDEST LIVING CULTURE. "The Aboriginal culture"*

*Be Proud of us don't be ashamed of us.*

*Just the other week, on the 13<sup>th</sup> Feb, our Prime Minister apologised to my people for the Governments 'wrong doing' in the past and apologised to the Stolen Generation. The PM apologised to my people. My Dad was one of 19 siblings that were removed from their families, my mother was one of 7 siblings that were removed from their families.*

*So yes the PM apologised for the wrong- doing of past Prime Ministers, of past governments and the whole dreadful process of 'removal of children from their families'.*

*In his Apology speech the PM says;*

*"There is a further reason for an apology as well: it is that reconciliation is in fact an expression of a core value of our nation—and that value is a fair go for all. There is a deep and abiding belief in the Australian community that, for the Stolen Generations, there was no fair go at all. And there is a pretty basic Aussie belief that says it is time to put right this most outrageous of wrongs. It is for these reasons, quite apart from concerns of fundamental human decency, that the governments and parliaments of this nation must make this apology".*

*But hey it's not about feeling GUILTY, it's not about apportioning BLAME. Its about reconciling our differences and learning from our past, feeling proud to be Australian, being proud of being a West Australian. Being proud of our Human Values!!*

*The PM Rudd in his speech went on to say:*

*"And until we fully confront that truth, there will always be a shadow hanging over us and our future as a fully united and fully reconciled people. It is time to reconcile. It is time to recognise the injustices of the past. It is time to say sorry. It is time to move forward together".*

*I challenge you all as West Australians to celebrate Reconciliation and be proud to be Australian, like I am proud of being Noongar, Proud of Being Aboriginal, proud of being Australian.*

***It is about acknowledging the TRUTH.***

*Thank You "*