



7) a) Technology, discrimination and socioeconomic status heavily impact on the way in which Australian Aboriginals are able to access valued resources. Lack of technology that Aboriginals have lowers their ability to receive information regarding issues such as health. Discrimination in the past has stopped Aboriginals from receiving employment and the relatively low socioeconomic status of a majority of Aboriginals often denies them access to appropriate health care.

Aboriginals have led a predominantly traditional way of life before white invasion, as a result of this, many current day Aboriginals are still resistant to change. Australia is a largely



technological country, and many aborigi-
nals haven't adapted and embraced
technology. (Only 34.8% of Aborigi-
nals had connection to the internet in 1996)
This lack of technology dramatically
disadvantages Aborigines as they are
unable to receive vital information. This
resource is important as it educates
people. Aborigines are often unable to
receive information regarding treatment
of health problems. This in turn leads
to a high mortality rate from preventable
diseases (12 times national average)

Discrimination is where people act
on their biases. This can be positive
or negative. In the past negative
discrimination from employers often
disallowed aborigines the resource
of employment. They were often
~~to~~ negatively judged on their skin

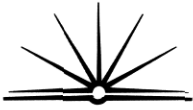


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colour rather than their skills.

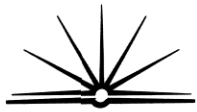
Recently however, positive discrimination has encouraged employment for Aborigines. The ~~set~~ positive promotion of the Aboriginal people, and the introduction of Anti discrimination laws has hugely increased Aboriginal participation in the workforce. There is however a lot of work ~~still~~ to be done as Aboriginal employment rates are still 5-10 times the national average.

As ~~a lot of~~ ~~many~~ aborigines are unemployed, or working in relatively low ^{paying} labour type employment, ~~as~~ their socio-economic status is dramatically reduced. A person's socio economic status is determined by their income, ownership etc. As many aborigines have a low socio-economic



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status, they often are unable to receive basic resources such as health care and ~~and~~ housing. (In 1986 33% of Aboriginals houses needed more than \$20,000 in repairs, and 50% of Aboriginals houses had severe sewerage problems.) The lack of money aboriginals receive often means that they do not receive appropriate and professional health care and medicine. This low economic status ~~also~~ often forced many aboriginal children to leave school as they couldn't afford fees and uniforms. This lack of access to healthcare, housing and education ensures that many Aboriginals will remain in the Australian underclass, and continue to maintain a low economic status.



Aboriginals access to technology, the discrimination they incur and the low economic status they have, all impact on their access to services such as information, education, healthcare, and housing. These resources are valued and the lack of these services have negative impacts on ^{Australian} Aboriginals.