

# Aboriginals Ordinance 1911, Northern Territory

1912 – 1918

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## Details

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The Aboriginals Ordinance 1911 (Act no. 16/1911) was passed on 8 January 1912 and commenced on the same day. Its full title is 'An Ordinance relating to Aboriginals'. It was the first legislation relating to Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory to be passed by the Commonwealth. It was to be read with the Northern Territory Aboriginals Act 1910 (SA) until repealed by the Aboriginals Ordinance 1918 (Cth) on 13 June 1918.

The 1911 Ordinance outlined the powers of the Chief Protector in undertaking 'the care, custody, or control of any aboriginal or half-caste if in his opinion it is necessary or desirable' in their 'interests'. This included the power to take them into custody for their own 'protection' or remove them from a prohibited area.

Although the Northern Territory was administered by the Commonwealth of Australia from 1 January 1911, it continued to be governed by South Australian laws until such legislation was altered by a Commonwealth Law.

## More info

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### Related Entries

#### Related Organisations

- [Chief Protector of Aborigines, Northern Territory, Australian Government \(1911 - 1939\)](#)

#### Amends

- [Northern Territory Aboriginals Act 1910, Northern Territory \(1910 - 1918\)](#)

#### Related Concepts

- [Law in the Northern Territory \(1863 - current\)](#)

## Resources

- McCorquodale, John, [The legal classification of race in Australia](#), Aboriginal History, 1986

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