

# Community Welfare Act 1983, Northern Territory

1984 – 2008

**Other Names:** • Community Welfare Ordinance 1983

**URL:** <https://legislation.nt.gov.au/en/Bills/Community-Welfare-Bill-1983-S-351?format=assented>

## Details

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The Community Welfare Act 1983 (Act No. 76/1983) was assented to on 28 November 1983 and commenced on 20 April 1984. It was repealed by the Care and Protection of Children Act 2007 (Act no. 37/2007) on 8 December 2008. The Community Welfare Act 1983 introduced the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle. To act in accordance with the welfare of the child the Minister was expected to take this principle into account and, where possible, arrange custody within the child's extended family.

The Community Welfare Act 1983 established a new Family Matters Court in the NT.

The Community Welfare Act was introduced at the same time as the Juvenile Justice Act 1983 – these laws marked a change in philosophy separating the criminal and welfare jurisdictions relating to young people in the Northern Territory.

## More info

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### Chronology

- Social Welfare Ordinance 1964, Northern Territory (1964 - 1984)
- Child Welfare Ordinance 1958, Northern Territory (1959 - 1984)
  - **Community Welfare Act 1983, Northern Territory (1984 – 2008)**
    - Care and Protection of Children Act 2007, Northern Territory (2008 - current)

### Related Entries

#### Related Glossary Terms

- [Aboriginal Child Placement Principle \(1983 - current\)](#)

#### Related Legislation

- [Juvenile Justice Act 1983, Northern Territory \(1983 - 2002\)](#)

#### Is amended by

- [Community Welfare Amendment Act 1989, Northern Territory \(1989 - 2008\)](#)

- [Community Welfare Amendment Act 1995, Northern Territory \(1996 - 2008\)](#)
- [Community Welfare Amendment Act 1999, Northern Territory \(1999 - 2008\)](#)
- [Community Welfare Amendment Act 2002, Northern Territory \(2002 - 2008\)](#)

**Related Organisations**

- [Children's Court, Northern Territory](#)

**Related Concepts**

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

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