

# B

## Boat People

Oceans storm with First-Fleet waves      navigating  
imperial-claims      a float of Tall-Ships      convict-  
slaves exiled and bound      antipodean shores

Now courage charts      a legal pass      asylum's sorrow  
horizon's hope      but surf's still      up with  
First-Fleet-waves      crashing all tomorrow

Seas rise again on hearts displaced      homes  
fade      disappear with night      oh what sorrow  
seeks refuge      to lands that fuel-fire  
in this climate-induced flight?

# D

## Domestic

The stories of Aboriginal women domestic servants cannot be told enough. They illuminate a deeply-rooted racist facet of Australia's history. They tell of the trials tribulations and triumphs amidst the backdrop of oppression.

—Jackie Huggins, *White Apron, Black Hands*, 1994

Girls of tender age and years are torn away from their parents ... and put to service in an environment as near to slavery as it is possible to find.

—Australian Aborigines Progressive Association, 1928

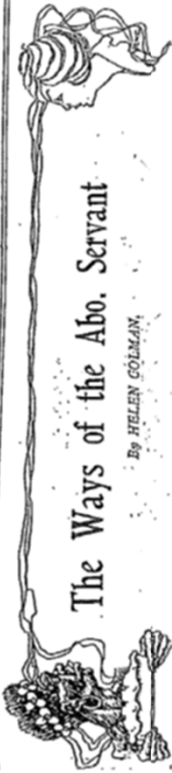
The great need in dealing with the girls of the [Point Pearce] mission is that they be placed out to domestic service as they reach a suitable age. There is no training and little for them to do in a native cottage home and so many girls grow up both useless and idle ~ Personally I feel strongly that voluntary effort in this direction is useless. A compulsory systematic placing of them out is necessary ~ Requests for the girls are often received by me and there would be absolutely no difficulty in finding situations for them. They become very capable as domestic workers especially at housework and the laundry ~ I think any girl so long as her health is right can do domestic work. The difficulty with the natives is that they are lazy ~ I could do more with them if obedience was enforced but as it is the parents interfere so much

Evidence: South Australian Royal Commission on the Aborigines, 1913

Aborigines Protection Board 1939  
Committed to Institution till 18 years  
Charged 'Destitute' Age 8

She is very fond  
of her own people  
and is looking forward  
to going home

(see Justice; Resistance; History Wars)



## The Ways of the Abo. Servant

By HELEN COLMAN.

I got her direct from a camp some miles from here and until she became used to things I had to tolerate the company of her mother and younger sister for a fortnight [she] was then about 12 years (Jaykay 1926) With all their drawbacks however the gins are more or less handy about the place though one needs tremendous patience to work them (Colman 1926) Topsy has only been in my possession about six months but I already feel as if ten years have been lifted from me such is my peace of mind (CM 1925) She loves washing and is never happier when her arms are deep in soapuds (Jaykay 1926) The children idolise her she appears to them as a real live gollywog and she is never tiring in her games and devotions to my babies (CM 1925) They were both fearsomely like baboons even to their hairy faces and short tick necks but as waitresses they could not have been better and their laundry work was excellent (FP) 1927 Washing day was always more or less exciting one never knew exactly what was going to happen next (Colman 1926)

### Apron Sorrow

apron-folds and pockets keep secrets  
pinned tucked hidden  
they whisper into linen-shadows  
that flicker-float with the sun  
hung  
limp on the breeze they sway  
a rhythmic  
SORROW

# N

## Nationalism

Grab your smags and gather the troops  
it's time to light up that good ol' Aussie barbecue.

—Amelia Broadstock, *The Advertiser*, 24 January, 2015

place hand on heart    it's Australia Day!    crack the champers    fly  
the flag    bow and curtsy    to Dames and Knights    since the  
Anthem    and God Save the Queen    **Rotate Clockwise**    **Shift+Ctrl+Plus**  
the test    on critical facts    like cricket and gems    who  
pledge loyalty    through Common-Bond    this invented national-  
family    ... Welcome to Team Australia!

turn back the clock    it's the 1950s    Howard's post-war-ideal    a  
way-of-life    so launch the lies    Children Overboard    and fantasy  
weapons    that will mass-destruct    then batten the hatches    Bolt the  
white-gate    dig-deep the land    to germinate    heirloom-  
pure    seeds of hate    gifted by the Nation-State    ... Go Team Orstraya!

sound the alarm    on those seeking-asylum    send a bold message    turn  
back the boats    reject UN Treaties    defy human-rights    lock-  
up the kids    then turn a blind-eye    campaign on terror    stereotype-  
Others    Ban the Burqa    they're all the same    ... Go Team 'Straya!

so bunker-down    with a meaty-uprising    savour the flavour    from  
barbecue-rants    buy a '50s blender    whip-up a pav    add a dollop  
of bigotry    to the Australian-dream    cook-up some fear    baste with  
cold-ideology    so many experts    on nation and race

Oh my heavy-heart's lament  
I despair my country  
this brutal Team  
but for this reminder  
with clenched-fist resist  
the strength of the Old Ones

(see Boar People; Mythology; Queen of England; Union Jack)

# X

## Xenophobia

*I believe we are in danger of being swamped by Asians ... They have their own culture and religion, form ghettos and do not assimilate ... A truly multicultural country can never be strong or united ... I talk about the exact opposite – the privileges Aboriginals enjoy over other Australians ... I worked for my land; no-one gave it to me.*

—Pauline Hanson, House of Representative Member from Oxley, 1996

“Please Explain?”  
asked the flame-haired  
xenophobe  
her cool-eyes smiled  
as she carved from the centre  
then sliced  
far-right  
away from the heart  
to reveal a wedged  
and rising  
One-Nation