

# KIDS DON'T BELONG IN PRISON CELLS

On average, it costs \$1 million per year to incarcerate a child. Prisons often harm children's physical and mental health, disrupt their education, and disconnect them from their culture and community.

We all want a safer Northern Territory, but evidence shows that locking up children does not make our community any safer.

Community-led diversion programs are proven to be more effective than incarceration in reducing reoffending, but they receive only a fraction of the funding they need.

## ABOUT THE 2024 NORTHERN TERRITORY ELECTION

The election to determine the next government of the Northern Territory will be held on Saturday, 24 August.

You will vote in one of 25 electorates that will each elect one member of the Legislative Assembly. Voting is compulsory for all residents of the Northern Territory and you could be fined for not voting.

To check your enrolment, request a postal vote, or find your closest place to vote, go to [ntec.nt.gov.au](http://ntec.nt.gov.au)

## HOW TO MAKE SURE YOUR VOTE COUNTS

When you receive your ballot paper, you will receive voting instructions. Write '1' next to the candidate who is your first choice. Continue numbering the boxes in the order of your preference. You must number every box. If you make a mistake, you can request a new ballot paper.

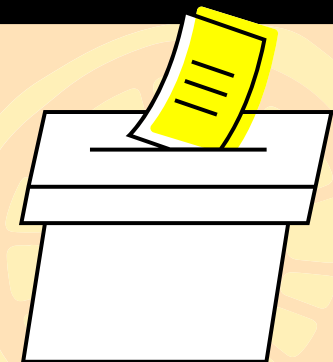
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AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL



THIS ELECTION  
**VOTE FOR  
SAFER  
COMMUNITIES**

**RAISING THE AGE OF  
CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY  
AND PROPERLY FUNDING  
JUSTICE REINVESTMENT**



**PUTTING KIDS IN PRISON DOESN'T TEACH THEM A LESSON.**

**INSTEAD, IT LEADS TO HARM AND MORE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR.**

**FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY-LED PROGRAMS, TAILORED TO LOCAL NEEDS LIKE ON-COUNTRY INITIATIVES, OFFER SMARTER, COST-EFFECTIVE ALTERNATIVES TO PRISON.**

**THE NEXT NT GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO COMMIT TO RAISING THE AGE.**

## NT 2024 ELECTION WHERE DO THE PARTIES STAND?

**COMMITTS TO RAISING THE AGE OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY TO 14**



Unclear  No  Yes 

**COMMITTS TO NOT LOWERING THE AGE LOWER THAN THE CURRENT 12**



Yes  No  Yes 

**COMMITTS TO INVESTING IN FIRST NATIONS-LED YOUTH DIVERSION PROGRAMS**



Yes  Unclear  Yes 

## WHAT ABOUT INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES?

Across the NT, Independent candidates are running for election. Being unaffiliated with any political party gives these candidates the ability to determine their own policy platforms, which means their positions vary widely.

To find out if an Independent candidate running in your electorate commits to raising the age of criminal responsibility, go to [amnesty.org.au/nt-election](https://www.amnesty.org.au/nt-election)



### ABOUT AMNESTY



Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 10 million people in over 150 countries and territories who campaign to end human rights abuses. Amnesty works closely with Indigenous communities to fight discrimination, unfair detention and to demand safety and a fair justice system for all. Amnesty International Australia is a fully non-partisan and independent registered charity.

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