



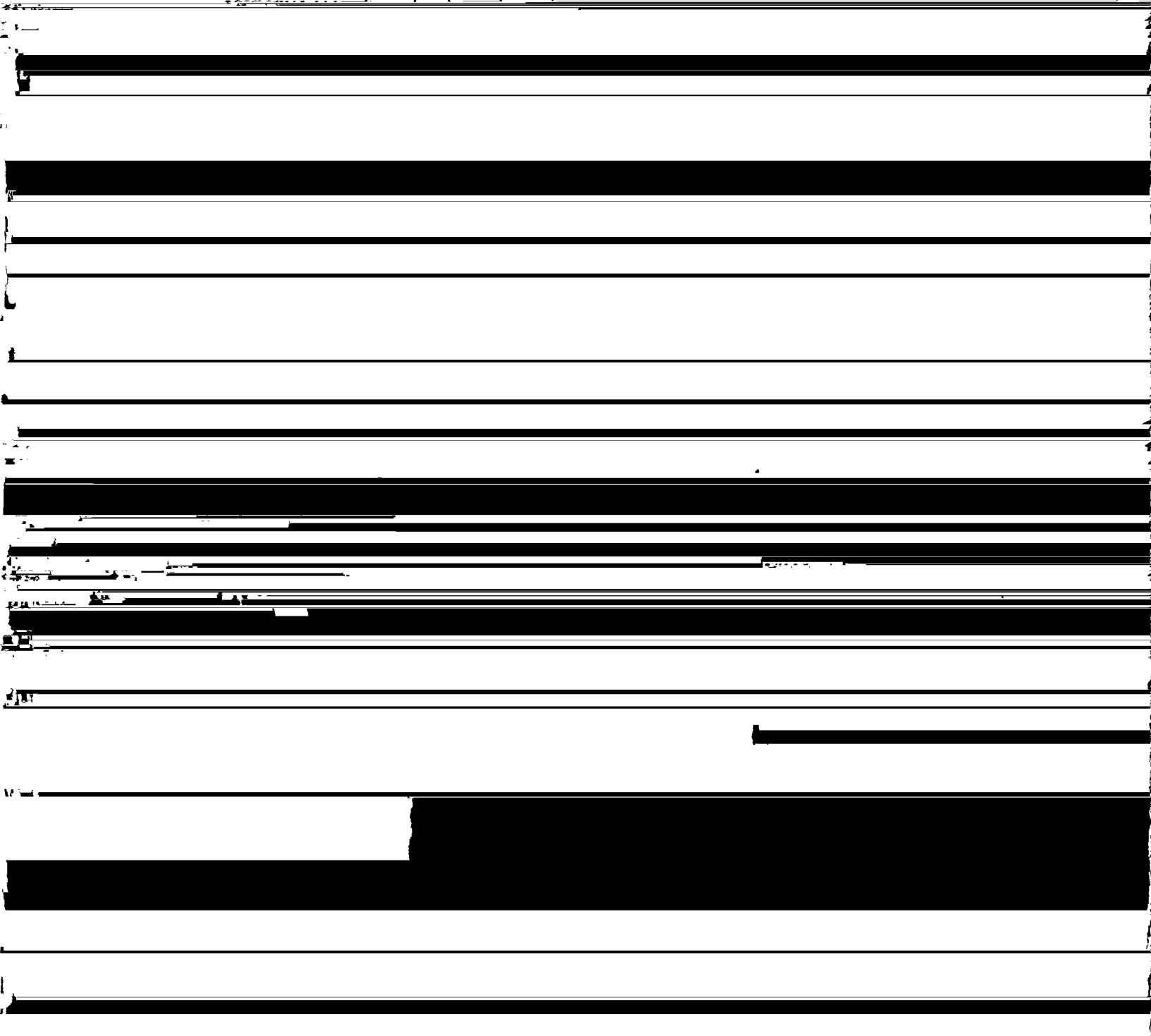
AUSTRALIA



9. Australia is pursuing three key priority areas for advancing gender equality:
- a. improving women's economic outcomes and financial independence;
  - b. ensuring women's voices are heard at all levels of decision-making; and,
  - c. reducing violence against women.

**Economic outcomes**

10. Helping women and men to more equally share care is an important part of achieving



21. The Government also holds events such as the recent *National Rural Women's Summit* to consult with particular groups on specific issues.

**Violence against women**

22. Violence against women is a serious issue in Australia.

23. Reducing violence is essential to achieving greater gender equality.

24. Australia is working to reduce both the impact and incidence of violence against women, including through the development of a *National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children* and respectful relationships education.

**Indigenous women**

25. We recognise that there is much work to be done in Australia.

26. One year ago, the Australian Government made an historic National Apology to Indigenous Australians for previous government policies that saw the forcible removal of Indigenous children from their families. I have appended a copy of this document to the Country Statement for delegate's interest.

27. The National Apology was a powerful symbol and marked the beginning of a new chapter in the relationship between the Australian Government and Indigenous Australians.

Conclusion

34. In concluding, I would like to recall the words of \_\_\_\_\_

Jessie Street.

35. Jessie Street campaigned for the inclusion of women's rights in the Covenant of the League of Nations and later in the Charter of the United Nations.
36. The work of Jessie Street so many years ago serves as a reminder of what we can achieve by working together, both within our countries and through international cooperation, and the importance of the inheritance we leave for our daughters and granddaughters.
37. Thank you.

ed with  
loss on  
their country.

The heading

is between

take in