

# Review of: "The Uluru Statement from the Heart – A consideration from three perspectives"

Michele Lobo<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Deakin University

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear David

Thanks for your 'supplementary' article highlighting three perspectives on *The Uluru Statement from the Heart* (First Nations National Constitutional Convention, 2017). I was motivated to read your previous article 'On the ongoing need for naturalistic philosophy to interpret what occupational science is doing'. It helped me gain a deeper sense of the perspectives offered in this article and the naturalistic philosophical approach. I suggest the article be situated within literature on a naturalistic philosophical approach so that it could appeal to a broad readership.

"Rather, writing this article, and others like it, is more akin to swimming in a stream that is filled with the blood and the anguish of First Nations people" – what a beautiful and moving way to express the process of writing that is described as painful for a white settler Australian. Swimming in a stream immerses you in the blood and anguish of First Nations people. This is 'voluntary discomfort' and different from writing from a position of white guilt, white anxiety, white unbelonging and benevolent responsibility. Are the latter positions more comfortable for white settler Australians? Maybe you can add sections of Footnote 1 to provide a deeper insight into your positionality and motivation for doing this work.

Placing Aboriginal philosopher Mary Graham's voice (many long quotes!) alongside occupational scientist Ann Wilcock provides novel perspectives on being, becoming, belonging and walking together illuminated in the Uluru Statement. Thanks for stirring crosscurrents of deep thinking with your creativity. The conclusion is strong and emphasises the need for naturalistic philosophical approach in occupational science. I am not sure why as an Australian settler of colour and geographer I sometimes felt lost as I tried to find the connections to truth telling and justice.

Thanks very much for opening my mind and body to new ideas, disciplines and ways of writing across science and the humanities.

