

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

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David Turnbull's article offers valuable insights into contemporary understandings of the ancient philosophies of Australian Aboriginal culture. Focusing on occupational science, it explains the significance of the land in first nations' natural philosophy, and goes on to discuss the occupational scientist Ann Wilcock's work, and specifically how she positions the central tenets of *doing, being, becoming and belonging* as qualities of occupation.

The article identifies the historic disconnect between Aboriginal philosophy and the Enlightenment science of the Western settlers - an disconnect that led to tragic consequences for the Aboriginal people. It sensitively draws out key elements of aboriginal author Mary Graham's work, which are characterised by her understanding of the importance of the Aboriginal people's relationship to the land, from which, she argues, all other relationships - social, political, aesthetic - develop.

In Aboriginal philosophy, the world is immediate, and not external, and its people are custodians, as well as its observers. Turnbull illustrates how this notion of being both 'custodian' and 'observer' is at odds with the traditional Western view. Through his research he identifies that the coupling of the roles of custodian and observer should be explored further by scholars interested in discovering what the 60,000 year old cultural practices of Australia can teach a failing capitalist society.

There is a clarity and insight in Turnbull's writing, which is welcome and makes this short article of significant value.