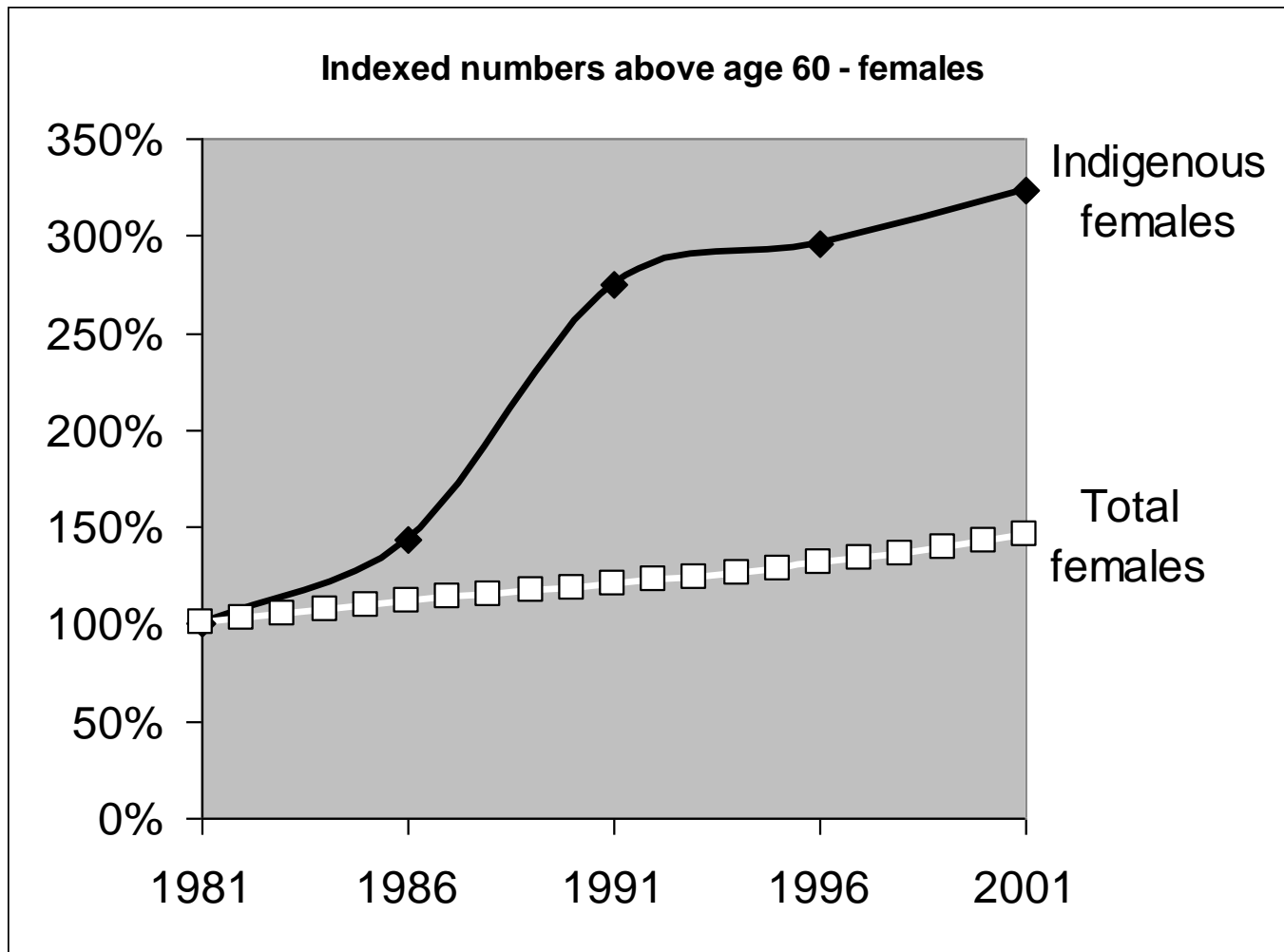


FROM EXCLUSION TO RECOGNITION:

Developments in policy for older Indigenous Australians

International Federation on Ageing
10th Global Conference
May 2010

NHMRC/ARC *Ageing Well Ageing Productively* Strategic Grant



Indexed numbers of Indigenous and total males and females aged 60 and over, 1981-2001
Source: Analysis of ABS Censuses 1981-2001; Cotter, Anderson & Smith (2007)



...us Kooris always seemed to have to get government permission to do anything – permission to work, permission to marry...



Charles Darwin
UNIVERSITY

School for Social and Policy Research



WALLS OF HESSIAN

Exclusion to recognition

‘... decided to exclude Veterans and Aboriginals from the general consideration of programs for the Aged in this Report.’

McLeay (1982)

Aged Care Reform Strategy

- Special needs group
- Setting of age 50
- Increase in services
- Community control
- Consultation

1994 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Strategy

You let a thousand
flowers bloom and
half of them will be
not viable ...

1996

- Change of government

2007

- Additional funding
- Death of an elder
- Change of government

2008

- Indigenous Aged Care Plan

Issues

- Limited understanding
- Experimental policy
- Narrow problem frame

Dr John Condon, Menzies School of Health Research

Professor Ian Anderson, University of Melbourne

Dr Len Smith, Australian National University

Professor Tony Barnes, Charles Darwin University

Ms Philippa Cotter, Charles Darwin University

Dr Teresa Cunningham, Charles Darwin University