How has life changed for Aborigines over the last 100 years?

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Big changes have taken place in the lives of Aborigines all over Australia during the last hundred years. Some of these changes include discrimination, name calling, employment and rights. The discrimination of Aborigines includes being refused service at a cafe or the rights to buy land. They could also be refused a job on the same principle as the above mentioned rights which were reserved for white people. This is all because of their skin being a darker colour.

In 1965, the Racial Discrimination Act was passed. This meant that the Aborigines now had the rights to buy land, be served at a cafe or restaurant and get a job. But there was still the problem of name calling. 100 years ago, no one would have given much thought to insulting an Aborigine or someone of Asian descent. A few examples are Ava and Coconut.

In 1985, the Racial Hatred Act was passed. This means that anyone who makes a racist comment to an Aborigine based on the fact that their skin was black, could be prosecuted and made to pay damages. Now notice the dates the Acts were passed. It took almost 30 years after the discrimination act was passed to make the white Australians realise that the Aborigines didn’t like being teased or abused or hurt because of who they were. This is appalling. But back then nobody really gave that much thought to it. In conclusion, these are the things that have changed the lives of Aborigines around Australia. They are treated better and are now given rights no hundred years ago would have been refused to them. Great thanks go to people like Olive Band for giving them these rights. Thank you.