



Kennedy MP Bob Katter says his identification with “blackfellas” goes back to his younger days in Cloncurry.

Bob Katter explains ‘blackfella’ heritage after QANDA confusion

Chris Calcino, *The Cairns Post*

5 July 2017

BOB Katter has caused a stir after claiming to be a “blackfella” on ABC talk show Q&A, with confused viewers taking to social media to question his heritage.

The Kennedy MP addressed the issue earlier this week in Cairns, telling reporters his indigenous links went back to his youth.

“I lived out bush with First Australians in my mining days and many other roles ... mustering cattle and those sort of things,” he said.

“Under the law, if you lived in an area and were accepted as part of a tribe in that area, you legally would be part of the tribe. I claim the law.”

Mr Katter said he had long felt a deep identification with Aboriginal people.

“I come from Cloncurry, we always refer to ourselves as ‘Curry mob’,” he said. “In that situation, I identified very strongly with my cousin-brothers.”

Mr Katter later said discriminatory laws made it impossible for indigenous people to use their natural resources or “even look after ourselves with a bit of roo meat or croc eggs as we die of malnutrition in numbers that make our nation a disgrace”.