

TELL THE TRUTH

**What happened to the Koories
Who were the Custodians of this old, old, ancient Land
for thousands and thousands of years**

What happened to them?

**After invasion and colonisation took place
What happened on the frontier wars
when the Koories of this state**

were

**Raped, murdered by the sword, bayonets, bullets
poisoned, and genocide
That wiped out whole Koorie Nations.**

**Were their bodies thrown
onto fires,
into creeks, swamps, lakes, rivers,
buried in shallow graves
or thrown over cliffs**

**Hoping that they would never be found
Or were they left on the ground
where they were
Slaughtered
and
Used as blood and bone
to fertilise
Your
Stolen Land ?**

And you took the Children away.

**Was anybody ever punished for
What they did
to the Koories of this State?**

**Or was British Justice and Punishment
Only handed out according
To the colour of your skin ?**

**Without the Truth being told
Of what happened here in the place now called Victoria
There cannot be Reconciliation
Only a divided State as it is today.**

TELL THE TRUTH

Jim Berg

Gunditjmara Elder