Submission to Yoorrook Justice Commission

From: Anonymous 1050

Dated: 29 October 2024

Submission:

What do you know about the colonisation of Victoria and its impacts on First Peoples?

I know of some dates of contact, the missions existence, the take over of land by settlers, new laws and ways of doing things forced on Indigenous Australians without consent or agreement. I know that the land then created economic value which IA were excluded from.

What has been your experience learning about First Nations history and culture in Victoria's education system? Do you feel it was comprehensive?

It was probably at a museum or something like that. Very far removed from reality today. The frame was always "it was a long time ago"... a culture that didnt exist anymore. It was the extreme opposite of comprehensive, it was very poor.

What changes would you like to see in Victoria to promote better understanding and respect for First People's?

Treaty. Meaningful reparations, financial and land, handing over of assets that were stolen from them.

In what ways do you think non-First Nations Victorians can contribute to the process of truth-telling and treaty?

Supporting organisations like Pay the Rent and First Nations Futures. Supporting First Nations leaders Seek education of accurate historical events.

In what ways could First Peoples history and culture be promoted in Victoria?

SYSTEMIC CHANGE in institutions... Indigenous ways of dealing with education, belonging and housing, and resolving conflict and crime (without ostracising criminals and compounding disadvantage such as what happens in the western justice system).

END OF SUBMISSION