

Submission to Yoorrook Justice Commission**From: Anonymous 1139****Dated: 6 November 2024****Submission:****What do you know about the colonisation of Victoria and its impacts on First Peoples?**

I do not know specifics about Victoria colonisation. From what I have learned across other areas of Australia it was devastation, control, forced removal, genocidal in some cases, and horrific to the First Peoples of Australia. I can solidly assume the same stands for the First Peoples residing in Victoria.

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

I had absolutely 0 education in Victorian Public Primary and Secondary School Education (90's-Early 2000s). Which I find absolutely abhorrent. I mostly learnt from a family friend who was TSI and a school friend.

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

Implement better education in schools, without glazing over the disgrace, but in a way that is culturally safe for those in school directly impacted by our nation's history. Discuss local culture, elders, talk about the environment and places of significance and why we need to better understand the lands we do walk on, how we can better respect and protect them.

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

By listening. And being led by First Nations Victorians on how we can best contribute and support them.

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

At local events, in schools, in workplaces, at local parks, at places of significance, on public transport to these places, at local council, through local councils sharing and promoting local history that include First Peoples, not just the first mine that was built, or the local post office. Hire First Peoples first, in any position related to promoting history.

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