

Submission to Yoorrook Justice Commission**From: Anonymous 1148****Dated: 8 November 2024****Submission:****What do you know about the colonisation of Victoria and its impacts on First Peoples?**

I know very little about this. I have watched the Australia Wars and listened to podcasts and TV shows on ABC. I have heard First Nations people talk about this when interviewed but I feel I have a lot more to learn, especially from First Nations people directly.

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

Absolutely nothing. Zero. I went to a private girls school in Melbourne in the 1980s. There was absolutely no content. My mum bought me a book about First Nations people when I was in primary school which was mostly pictures and came with no explanation.

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

Compulsory education at all levels of school. Cultural practices ingrained into all levels of government and the return of language through education in school and other adult education organizations. Implement language in our city landscape through dual language on signage and buildings.

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

Listen. Learn. Ask questions without the fear of getting it wrong. Implement learning as a mandatory item at school and work.

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

For all of us to be proud of our true history and accept the dark history as our country's truth. If we all learn the truth we can then be proud to talk about this and own it when we meet people from other places or those who are not familiar.

END OF SUBMISSION