

**Submission to Yoorrook Justice Commission****From: Genine Hook****Dated: 29 October 2024****Submission:****What do you know about the colonisation of Victoria and its impacts on First Peoples?**

Some local from Year-10 local history subject and Bruce Pascoe's work.

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

I was very lucky to have one teacher that developed a local history subject that explored First Nations history of Gippsland. Learning local First Peoples history should not be luck, we should embed this in all levels of schooling. I don't remember any other learning from my 13 years at school. I studied Australian Indigenous Studies as a major for my Arts degree at Monash University.

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

First Nations history is embedded in the curriculum already, so teachers must develop lesson plans and embed this teaching. I would also like to see more funding for First Nations educators to also lead this work.

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

Through their family history - I have a convict ancestor and family 'settled' in the Portland area and am reflecting on stolen lands and the Convincing Ground. We must also vote for governments who take truth-telling and treaty seriously, who fund it and endorse the process.

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

More stories shared through film and art. Use sporting events to share more cultural history and stories.

**END OF SUBMISSION**