

Submission to Yoorrook Justice Commission**From: John Lamp****Dated: 31 October 2024****Submission:****What do you know about the colonisation of Victoria and its impacts on First Peoples?**

Too little. I am 69, the only thing I knew about the colonisation, was the so called purchase. My parents actively supported the 1967 referendum and were members of the Aborigines Advancement League. Even with that level of involvement, I have learned more this century, than in the last 40 years of the twentieth century. I am in Geelong, and the activity of the Wathaurong community and the Narana cultural centre has been a significant factor.

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

Non existent

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

There is a huge lack of information, and very little seems to be provided directly from First People. I need to know more about showing respect for First Peoples culture. For instance, as a descendent of colonists, is it appropriate for me to use address elders as uncle or auntie?

In what ways do you think non-First Nations Victorians can contribute to the process of truth-telling and treaty? I think the issue of cultural awareness is key, and personally challenging other non-First Nations Victorians when they express uninformed opinions or make derogatory comments.

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

Obviously, through the education system. Place names should be dual language, interpretation signs should include information from a First Peoples' view. This is scratching the surface.

END OF SUBMISSION