

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

I know about the atrocities, the stolen, generation the women raped, First Nations people murdered, Mobs broken up put into reserves, Loss of language culture displaced- Now we have intergenerational trauma

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

Well I'm 58. We didn't learn this at school. I've learnt this as an adult because of my love of aboriginal culture and their arts.

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

Because after the yes vote, I noticed how racist people are towards first Nations people They deserve respect

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

The go back to mob - have a yarn, get ideas I feel Indigenous culture needs their own voice & Autonomy –

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

That's challenging because as a child a Aboriginal dance troop came to my primary school in South eastern suburbs of Melbourne and performed - It was the first time ever seen aboriginal people and I was blown away at how wonderful the experience was - learning about their culture - However, I can't expect the aboriginal people to have to do all the work to explain themselves to the ignorant - just more education in schools

END