




Re-imagining Indigenous Communities & Cultures



An Indigenous young person's
perspective

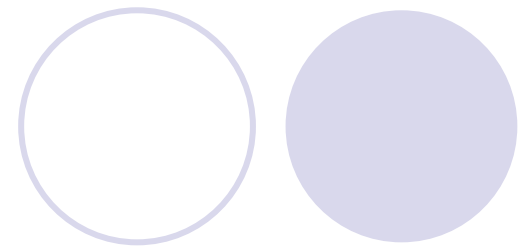
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Re-imagining Indigenous Communities & Cultures



- Construction of Aboriginality
- Community development & engaging communities
- The role of young people in community decision making processes

Constructing Aboriginality an historical perspective



noble savage. savage. humanities' primitive
children. relics of early history of
mankind. a retrogressed race.
feble-minded. child-like race. a dying
race. mixed breed. half-breed. Mixed
blood. quarter breed. half-caste.
quadroon. quarter caste. octoroon.
hybrid. remnant. settled. touched with
the tar brush. teaspoon of black blood
detribalised. bit of the splash. no
darker than me. not 'real'. urbanised.

Constructing Aboriginality “Despair & Dysfunction”

Alcohol	Riots	Poverty	Abuse
Culture loss	Crime	Violence	Racism
Drug Use	Death	Corruption	Ill health

Constructing Aboriginality “Strength & Survival”

Sense of community	Cultural identity	Community protocols	Political activism
Community Networks	Extended family	Volunteerism	Sports, arts & culture
Reciprocity	Respect for elders	Organisation involvement	Sense of place

Community Development & Engaging Communities

- A remedy for all “social ills?”
- Empowerment or disempowerment?
- Defining community
- Needs-based versus asset-based approaches
- Enabling engagement - resourcing communities & community organisations
- Who defines success – young people, agencies, funding providers?
- Problematizing & blaming communities

Young people in decision-making processes



- Defining & representing young people
- Authenticating young people's experiences – the “youth at risk”
- Problematizing “youth” – just a time of crisis & chaos?
- Considering the cultural domain occupied by young people