

## RECOGNIZING THE STRUGGLE

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After more than 500 years of discrimination to the point of genocide and cultural ethnocide, Indigenous Peoples are reported to be up to 33% more likely of being victims of crime, including sexual and physical assaults.<sup>1</sup>

The Ministry of National Health and Welfare reports that in 1 in 3 girls and 1 in 5 boys are sexually assaulted each year<sup>2</sup>, these numbers as they relate to Indigenous become even greater in their significance. While many theories for these figures exist, a system of dealing with them is sadly lacking.

## TRAUMA THEORY - CYCLES OF VICTIMIZATION

This paper studies the effects of "Trauma Theory" and statistics, and applies them to historic events and international policy to suggest appropriate directions when addressing issues of global importance.

Data collected from current and historic academic sources, with interview materials, suggest a cyclical pattern, underlining the importance of addressing current issues in a relevant fashion

## UNITED NATIONS & THE DECLARATION



Recent international collaboration among Indigenous Peoples around the world and the State-Members of the United Nations has led to the creation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, an instrumental document, guiding policy makers and frontline organizations moving forward.<sup>3</sup>

## ENGENDERING HOPE



Healing Circle at the Gatehouse, Toronto, ON  
<http://thegatehouse.org/>

Organizations that use restorative justice techniques such as healing circles and place emphasis on community healing have been shown to effectively deal with the rates of sexual abuse and childhood sexual abuse. Where facilities able to work within the context of Indigenous values and the Declaration exist, rates have dropped drastically.<sup>4</sup> We must offer a "future where those impacted by childhood sexual abuse can heal and reclaim their voices".<sup>5</sup>

# MODERN COLONIALISM

The Gatehouse Initiative: 500 Years of Colonialism vs. Modern Society

Ian Hood, LAPS/HREQ 1960

Indigenous Resistance in Global Context,  
York University, 2017.



The Gatehouse, 3101 Lakeshore Blvd. West, Toronto.  
Picture by Rev. Edward Brain D.D., 2014  
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The gatehouse initiative is a Toronto based organization that works to support survivors of abuse through the use of practices of community healing and restorative justice central to Indigenous cultures. Located in a historic building on Lakeshore, their vision is being realized through such means as healing circles and building resiliency.



Samoset of the Wampanoag greets British colonists  
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For five centuries, Indigenous People of North America have struggled with colonization of their lands, and with concepts of land ownership previously unknown in their custom of land stewardship. Europeans brought disease, war and conflict the likes of which no one in the "New World" had ever before imagined. The cultural damage to the Indigenous was devastating.

### Credits and Further Reading

1. Aboriginal Victimization in Canada  
- Scrim, Katie. Department of Justice, Gov. of Canada 2016
2. Sexual Offences Against Children in Canada  
- Robin Badgely, et al. Minister of Justice & Attorney Gen. of Canada. 1984
3. UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples  
- United Nations General Assembly, 2007
4. supra. Badgely Report
5. Vision, Mission and Objectives,  
- [www.thegatehouse.org](http://www.thegatehouse.org) 2016

Full paper bibliography attached

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