

A Model Of The Effects Of Colonialism ©

Dr. Michael Yellow Bird, Office for the Study of Indigenous Social and Cultural Justice, 1998.

AREA

EXAMPLES

COLONIZED ADAPTATION

ANTIDOTE TO COLONIALISM

ECONOMIC

Exploitation of labor/Lands. Subservience to New Markets, Employment Shifts, Competing Development Ideologies and Dependency.

Tribal/State Gaming Compacts, Land leasing policies, NAFTA, GATT, Federal Employment Manufacturing for Multinationals, Sustainable v. Unsustainable development.

Uncritical Participation in Capitalism. Rapid emergence of diverging income and social classes: Finite employment skills, knowledge in work force. Low Multiplier effect.

Critical examination of the effects of Capitalism, Strong socialistic enterprise. Critical examination of sustainable development models. Employment skill variety. Recalculation of bottom line and poverty.

PSYCHOLOGICAL

Internalized racism, Apathy, Inferiorization, Alienation, Depression, Doubt and devalue of self/culture, Individual and Community divisiveness.

Acceptance of distorted images, stories of Indigenous Peoples. Relative lack of unity and low participation in tribal affairs. Infighting with low resolution A celebration of culture in accepted contexts only.

Culture of Silence.* Self disparagement with and/or substances. Low or no commitment to resisting different forms racism. Blame culture for problems.

Critical examination of psychological condition as it relates to colonialism. Move toward critical dialogues of psychological consequences. Institute aggressive healing and treatment methods. Institute critical conflict resolution and self-esteem programs.

SPIRITUAL

Redefine and Censor the Transcendental values, knowledge, and sense of meaning of ultimate reality. Change of meaning of Relationship with other people, beings, and Universe. Grave robbing and control of deceased.

Outlaw ceremonies and use of sacred plants. Limit access to sacred sites. Religion instead of spirituality. Male-ification of sacred deities and ceremonies.

Sacredness of land, people, elements changes. Denial and condemnation of Indigenous spirituality. Contradiction in development and ecological stewardship. A High reliance on colonial religions and assumptions (Church v. Nature).

Critical assessment of spiritual conditions and beliefs. Creation of empowering definitions that help renew Indigenous spiritual values, beliefs, and meanings. Introduction of rites of passage, new ceremonies and rituals to renew relationship with spiritual past.

INTELLECTUAL

Imposition of colonial ideas, knowledge, teaching methods. Censorship of Indigenous knowledge. Inculcated curriculum in schools promote control, punishment, and demand obedience and avoid critical thinking, reflection, perspective, and consciousness

Boarding Schools. Accreditation of schools by state authorities. Low use of materials/works from Indigenous Scholars. Little or no critical dialogue of effects of colonialism or decolonization. High rates of school drop out. Low test scores and comprehension.

Do not question. Provide superficial content on Indigenous Peoples and circumstances. Embrace Popular culture. English replaces Indigenous language. High Participation in U.S. Military or other occupations oppress Indigenous Peoples.

Critically conscious education to encourage Indigenous students to deconstruct racism and ethnocentrism of European American education. Prepare students to use four criticals so they can Meaningfully respond to their own oppression and the social, economic, and political contradictions of European American society as they pertain to Indigenous Peoples. Create community think tanks (CTCs).

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<u>AREA</u>	<u>EXAMPLES</u>	<u>COLONIZED ADAPTATION</u>	<u>ANTIDOTE TO COLONIALISM</u>
<u>PHYSICAL</u>	<p>Alcoholism, FAS/FAE, suicide, diabetes, cirrohsis homicide, heart disease Tuberculosis, STD's, and sexual abuse. High mortality and morbidity. Sixty-three percent of all Indigenous Peoples reside outside areas served by tribal governments. Seventy per cent of all violent Victimizations experienced by Indigenous Peoples are committed by persons from a different race.</p>	<p>Addictive Behaviors. Treat predominately with conventional European American methods. More police more jails. More physicians more more hospitals. Encourage tribal to move rather than invest themselves. Use of colonial blood quantum rules.</p>	<p>Critical examination of the relationship between colonization and poor health. Do not victim blame or revictimize but instead. institute aggressive measures for healing community. Institute new forms of community justice. Change to citizenship rather than blood quantum. Create new migration initiatives.</p>
<u>POLITICAL</u>	<p>IRA governments. Bureau of Indian Affairs, department of interior, plenary power of Congress, Quasi-sovereignty.</p>	<p>Adoption of imposed government and bureaucracy. Corruption, factionalism, simple majority politics.</p>	<p>Restore and utilize empowering political ideologies. Indigenous Nationalism and tribalism. Re-negotiation of treaties. Formulate Indigenous Peoples' Supreme Court.</p>
<u>SOCIAL</u>	<p>Boarding Schools. Christianization. Relocation Policies.</p>	<p>Indigenous parenting become sole responsibility of nuclear parents or single mothers. Low or no cultural Gender role training or rites of passage. Deterioration of Community competence. Extended family supports. Mentors become minimal, abusive, or unavailable.</p>	<p>Critically assess social systems to raise consciousness of the effects of colonialism upon social order. Implement community-driven gender rites of passage. Create new community competence models. Establish clear and agreed upon codes of social behavior.</p>

Disproportionate levels of chronic disease, accidents, and incarceration. Push onto marginal lands and unfavorable sections of urban society. The dispossession of lands and resources. High rates of violence from within and without. Internmarriage rates.

Destruction of Indigenous forms of government. Imposition of colonial Bureaucracy and organization. Creation of political dependency.

Destruction of social order, systems, relationships, and protocol. Imposition of "new" Colonial social order.