

Researched to Death: B.C. Aboriginal Women and Violence

Pacific Association of First Nations Women, BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre, BC Association of Specialized Victim Assistance and Counselling Programs, September 2005, 24 pages

This report analyzes various studies conducted in the early-mid 1990s about Indigenous women and violence in Canada and reviews the lack of response over the last 10 years to the recommendations made.

 <http://www.endingviolence.org/publications/286/FinalReportSeptember2005.doc>

Just Another Indian: A Serial Killer and Canada's Indifference* ☼


Warren Goulding, 2001, Fifth House Ltd., 219 pages

This book traces the crimes of John Martin Crawford, a serial killer who preyed on Indigenous women and the manner in which his case was dealt with by the Canadian justice system. It raises concerns about racism, police inaction and policies, and the media.

The Start of Something Powerful: Strategizing for Safer Communities for BC Aboriginal Women

Pacific Association of First Nation's Women, BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre, the BC Association of Specialized Victim Assistance and Counselling Programs, October 2003, Office of Special Advisor on Aboriginal Health, BC Ministry of Health Planning, and the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada, 18 pages

This report analyses racialized violence and the lack of government support and culturally appropriate services for Indigenous communities, and provides recommendations to address these issues.

 <http://www.endingviolence.org/publications/232/SaferCommforBCAboriginalWom.doc>

Hollow Water* ☼


Directed by Bonnie Dickie, 2000, Produced by Joe MacDonald, NFB, 48 minutes


This documentary is set in the Ojibwa village in Northern Manitoba. With a history of violence, suicide, addiction, and sexual abuse, the community attempts to heal itself using traditional Indigenous approaches.

Strong Women Stories: Native Vision and Community Survival

Kim Anderson & Bonita Lawrence (Eds), Sumach Press, 264 pages

This collection of essays focuses on where Indigenous communities are today and where they want to go by looking at the activities of Indigenous women within their homes and communities.

 Note particularly Chapter 4: *The Eagle Has Landed*; Chapter 15: *From Violence to Leaders*; Chapter 17: *Coming Full Circle*.

- * User friendly/contains accessible language
- ☼ Contains explicit sexual or violent content
-  Notes

A PROJECT OF Human Rights Committee, OSSTF
Status of Women Committee, OSSTF

RESEARCHED AND COMPILED BY Regan Mancini

DESIGNED BY Sanam Ghani

A more comprehensive resource list is available through OSSTF/FEESO.
www.osstf.on.ca

a top 20 resource list
**VIOLENCE AGAINST
INDIGENOUS WOMEN
IN CANADA**

Racism, Sexism, and Colonialism:**The Impact on the Health of Aboriginal Women in Canada**

Carrie Bourassa, Kim McKay-McNabb & Mary Hampton, 2004, Fall, **Canadian Woman Studies**, vol. 24, no. 1, pages 23-29

This article provides an overview of how racist, sexist and colonial notions and legislation have contributed to the poor health and marginalization of Indigenous women in Canada.

Is Canada Peaceful and Safe for Aboriginal Women?

Anita Olsen Harper, 2006, **Canadian Woman Studies**, vol. 25, no. 1,2, pages 33-38

This article focuses on racialized violence experienced by Indigenous women and the inaction of police to intervene or protect them. It also summarizes the Sisters in Spirit initiative.

Finding Dawn* ☼

Directed and written by Christine Welsh, Produced by Svend-Erik Eriksen
NFB, 2006, 73 minutes

This film documents the journey of a Métis woman as she travels from Vancouver's skid row to Highway 16 in Northern British Columbia to Saskatoon to honour the Indigenous women whose murders and disappearances remain unsolved. The film illustrates the deeply rooted historical, social and economic factors that perpetuate and contribute to the violence these women experience and urges everyone to prevent it. The film discusses the John Crawford case. Indigenous activists Ernie Crey, Janice Acoose, and Beverley Jacobs appear in the film.

Stolen Sisters: A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence against Indigenous Women in Canada

Amnesty International, October 2004, 67 pages

This influential report examines four main factors which have consistently been neglected and have contributed to an increased risk of violence against Indigenous women in Canada: systemic social and economic marginalisation of these women through government policies which have forced them into extreme poverty, homelessness and prostitution; failure of Canadian police to protect Indigenous women; exploitation of these women by Indigenous and non-Indigenous men; racism and societal indifference to the violence experienced by Indigenous women and the accountability of the perpetrators.
☞ <http://www.amnesty.ca/amnestynews/upload/amr2000304.pdf>

The Continuing Struggle against Genocide: Indigenous Women's Reproductive Rights

D. Marie Ralstin-Lewis, Spring 2005, **Wicazo Sa Review**, pages 71-95

This article discusses the violent acts of forced sterilization and drug testing conducted on Indigenous women in Canada. It also recounts the traditional role of Indigenous women within their communities.

Measuring Violence Against Women: Statistical Trends 2006

Statistics Canada, 2006, 97 pages

This is the latest government document created on violence against women in Canada. Note particularly the following sections: *Executive Summary*; *Risk Factors Associated with Violence Against Women*; *Violence Against Aboriginal Women*; and *Violence Against Women in the Territories*.

☞ <http://www.statcan.ca/english/research/85-570-XIE/85-570-XIE2006001.pdf>

Mairin Iwanka Raya: Indigenous Women Stand against Violence

International Indigenous Women's Forum (FIMI), 2006, 64 pages

This report is produced by Indigenous women's groups around the world and provides various Indigenous women's perspectives on the violence they experience.

The arguments on page 12 regarding how the UN declaration defines violence against women differently from Indigenous women are particularly noteworthy.

☞ <http://www.madre.org/fimi/vaiwreport06.pdf>

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Programme of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Tebbtebba Foundation, 2006

Adopted by the UN Human Rights Council, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has yet to be ratified. If ratified, it would be a major step towards the elimination of human rights violations suffered by Indigenous peoples worldwide. This document contains the draft declaration and comments by a key UN body responsible for Indigenous issues (The UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples).

☞ http://www.tebtebba.org/about_us/publications/special/special.htm

Indian Act/Bill C31*

Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, 1998

This website provides many links to help understand the Indian Act and Bill C31 and their impact.

☞ <http://www.abo-peoples.org/programs/C-31/c-31.html>

II Organizing: Chapter 2: We're not taking it anymore*

in **Enough is Enough: Aboriginal Women Speak Out**, Janet Silman, December 1992,

The Women's Press, pages 93-118 of 253 pages

This contains several short stories by Indigenous women who pressured the government to change the laws denying them Indian status when they married a non-Indigenous man, thereby dispossessing them and increasing their risk of experiencing violence.

Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples

Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples October 1996, Supply and Services Canada, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, 4000 pages

After the Oka Crisis in the summer of 1990, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (RCAP) was established to study the evolution of the relationship between Indigenous peoples, the government of Canada and Canadian society generally. The following sections of their exhaustive 5-volume report should be noted: Volume 3: *Gathering Strength*, Chapter 1-*New Directions in Social Policy*; Chapter 2-*The Family*/Section 3, *Family Violence*; Volume 4: *Perspectives and Realities*, Chapter 2-*Women's Perspectives*.

☞ http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ch/rcap/sg/sgmm_e.html

Human Rights and Indigenous Issues: Mission to Canada, Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of Indigenous people

United Nations Commission on Human Rights, December 2004

This report outlines the 2004 mission of UN Special Rapporteur who recommended that the Canadian government eliminate provisions which disadvantage Indigenous women and increase their exposure to violence.

☞ <http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/docs/61chr/E.CN.4.2005.88.Add.3.pdf>

Canada's Position: United Nations Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, June 2006, 10 pages

This is a statement by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada about Canada's position on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

☞ http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nr/spch/unp/06/ddr_e.html

Stolen from our Embrace: The Abduction of First Nations Children and the Restoration of Aboriginal Communities* ☼

Suzanne Fournier and Ernie Crey, June 1998, Douglas and McIntyre, 250 pages

Through various short stories, this book delves into the residential school and child welfare experience linking Indigenous dispossession and experiences of abuse to the violence in their communities today. It examines the issue of sexual abuse from the perspective of perpetrators and survivors and the issue of fetal alcohol syndrome. The following sections should be noted: Chapter 4: *Infinite Comfort and Time—Healing Survivors of Sexual Abuse*; Chapter 5: *I am Responsible, I am Accountable—Healing Aboriginal Sex Offenders*.

The Dispossessed: Life and Death in Native Canada

Geoffrey York, 1990, McArthur & Company Publishing, 283 pages

This book is a collection of stories from First Nations and Métis peoples across Canada focusing on the major issues facing Indigenous peoples. It contains several stories about life on the reserves, resource extraction, legal systems, identity, belonging, and health. Pages 158-166 in Chapter 6: *Foreign Justice: Native People and The Law* provide a succinct overview of the famous Helen Betty Osborne case.