

Pulling Together

Week 5: Indigenous Approaches to Research/Ethics



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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oKMTB1cXv_M

Agenda for Today

1. Check in...
2. Special Guest: Angie Tucker
3. Introduction to Indigenous-Centered Research/Work
4. Ethical considerations
5. Home time!

Check in...

- **Week 5: Thursday June 16th (Section 4: pg 51-61)**
 - Building an Indigenized practice through assessing your work in relation to TRC, UNDRIP, and other Indigenous policies in your PSI
 - Angie Tucker - Race and Ethnicity
- **Week 6: Thursday June 23rd (Section 5: pg 63-75)**
 - BE PREPARED! This lecture will be longer than usual
 - Closing with an Elder

Special Guest... Angie Tucker!



INDIVIDUALS AND IDENTITIES: RACE AND ETHNICITY

A HISTORY OF RACIAL SCIENCE

WHAT IS RACE?

Race is a social construction.

Race classification is based on perceived physical differences.

Racial stratification puts races into a social hierarchy.

A physical difference ideology maintains group separation in society.



“We don’t see things as they are, we see things
as we are.”

Anaïs Nin

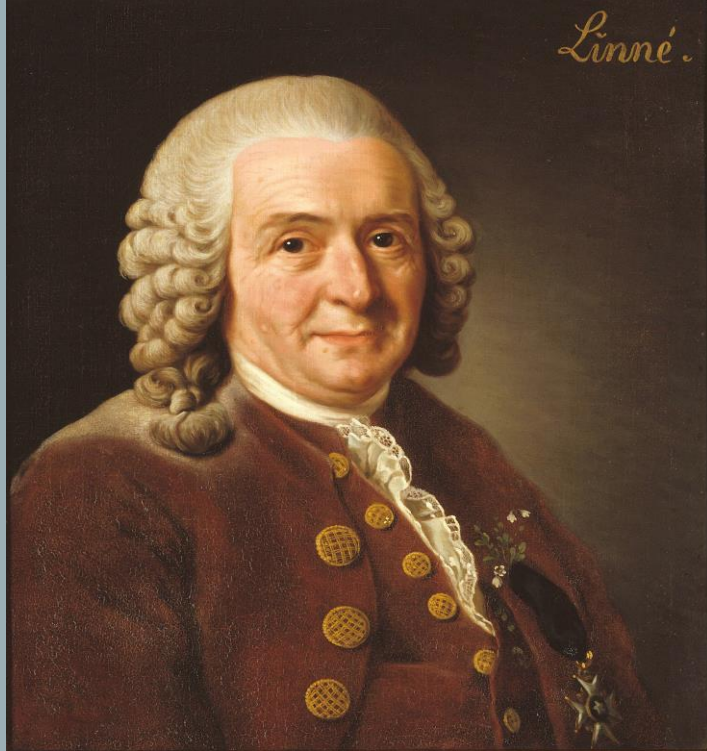
“Seduction of the Minotaur” (1961).



HISTORY

- During the Age of Exploration (15th-17th Century), European explorers were encountering people with different phenotypic traits from their own.
- Up until the end of the 17th Century, theories about human diversity tended to be biblically based. God created all life forms at one time, and in their final form – no evidence of evolution.
- Age of Enlightenment (17th-18th Century)-“The Age of Reason”- We value reason, progress, and perfection; rejecting many aspects of religion. The scientific method becomes more important.
- Imperialism, exploitation and industrialization (18th-19th Century)

CARLVON LINNAEUS
(1707-1778)



- *Systema Naturae* (1735)
- Swedish naturalist
- Binomial nomenclature: is a formal system of naming species of living things by giving each a name composed of two parts.
- Linnaeus proposed four subcategories of *Homo sapiens*: *Americanus*; *Asiaticus*; *Africanus*; and *Europeanus*.

JOHANN BLUMENBACH (1752-1840): THE FATHER OF THE STUDY OF RACE



Identified 5 Races based on geography
(1779):

- 1)Caucasian
- 2)Mongolian
- 3)Malaysian
- 4)Ethiopian
- 5)American Indian

Geography, diet and mannerisms
affected physical characteristics.

CHARLES DARWIN
(1809-1882)

*On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural
Selection (1859)*

Environment was key to diversity,
and humans were ever-changing.

Descent through modification

Not progressing towards an ideal
form, simply happens over time.

**If there is perfection, does
that mean that there is also
degeneration?**

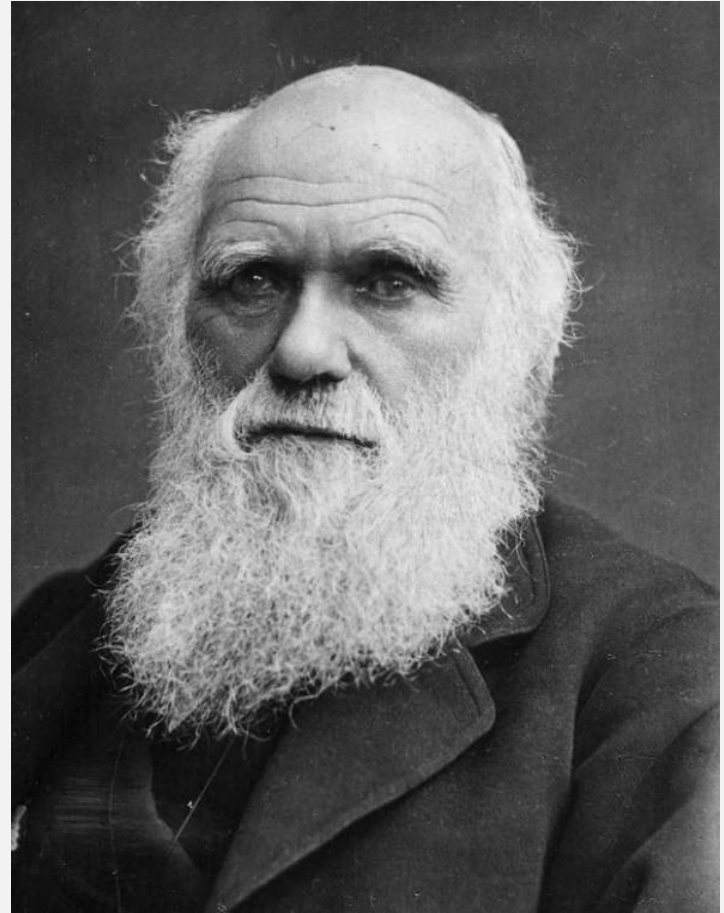


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DEGENERATION

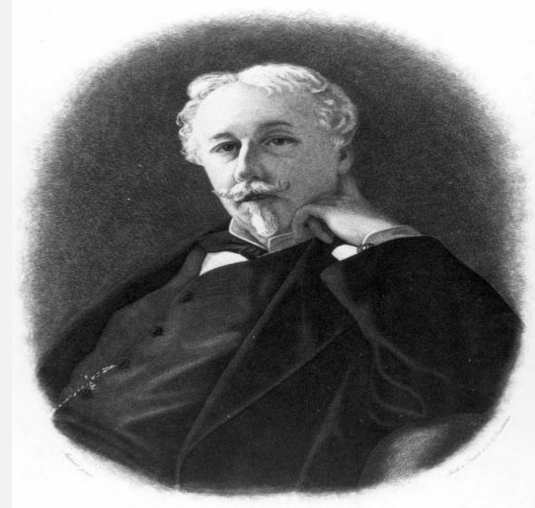
Degeneration Theory:

The belief that humanity has fallen from some higher state, and that some fall further than others.

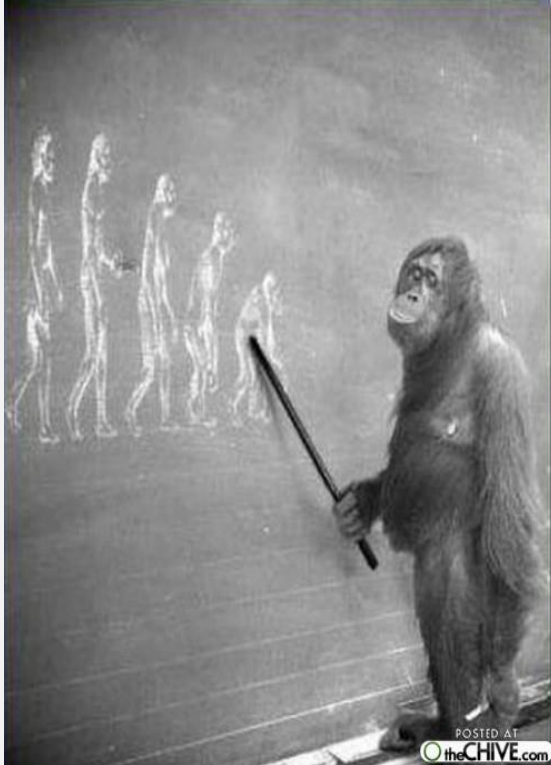
Arthur de Gobineau (1816-1882)

Essay on the Inequality of the Human Races (1853-1855)

- People degenerate through interbreeding.
- Race is responsible for all things that have happened in history
- Indirectly reinforced by Darwin's theory of Natural Selection
- Argues that there is a struggle for limited resources within our environments.

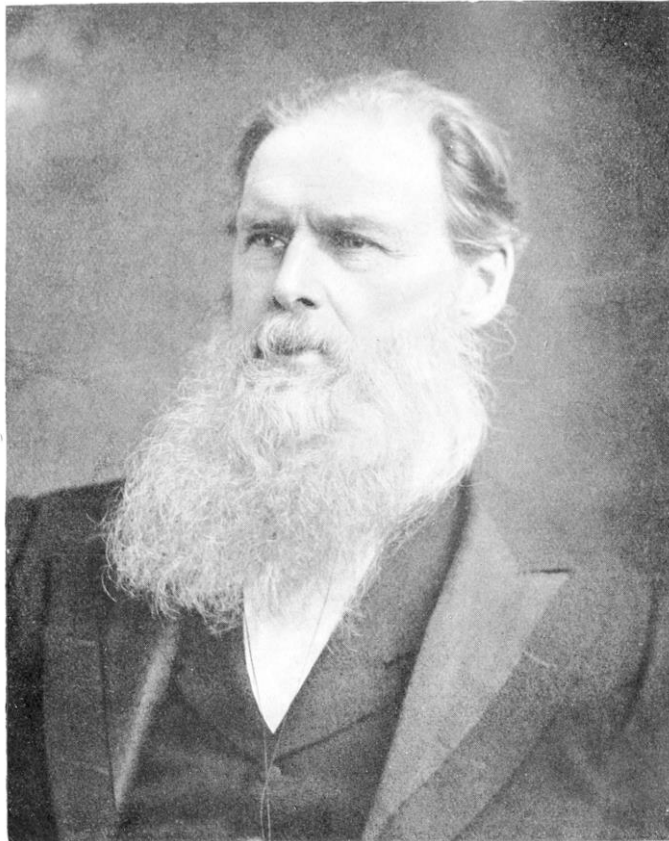


EARLY ASSUMPTIONS



- Evolution is natural and progressive.
- The fittest survive.
- Domination of another culture proves that you are superior over them.
- Forcing a culture to reorganize to look more like yours to *help* the culture fulfill a natural potential that was being wasted.

EDWARD BURNETT TYLOR (1832-1917)



- *Primitive Culture* (1871)
- Cultural Evolutionism – Founder of Cultural Anthropology
- 3 stages of development :Savagery, Barbarism and Civilization
- Relies, however, on Western civilization as the pinnacle of society.
- Universal, functional basis for the development of society and religion.
- Tylor is first to recognize that culture is learned and acquired, and NOT biological.

CANADIAN INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS

- Indigenous people living in Canada at contact were 'savage' and needed to be 'helped' or civilized.
- Jesuits and Missionaries
- Aboriginal people at the bottom of development.
- Bias has shaped many of the early legislations regarding Aboriginal populations.
- Institutions, images, terminology, policies, set apart geographically, and as inferior – the fear of the 'Other'.



SCIENTIFIC RACISM

- Scientific racism defined as the scientific/pseudoscientific techniques and hypotheses to support or justify the belief in racism, racial inferiority, racialism or racial superiority. It is the practice of classifying individuals of different phenotypes into distinct separate races.

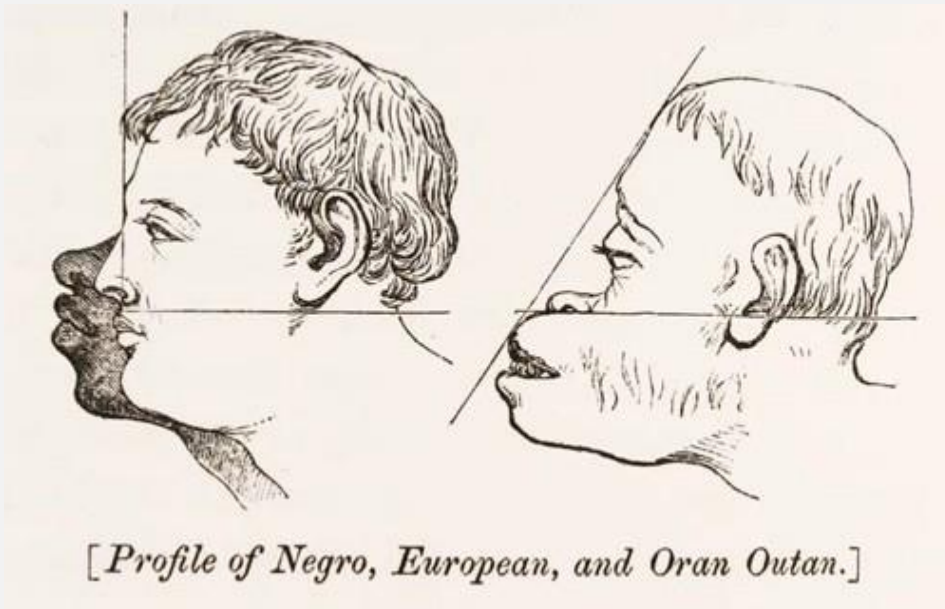
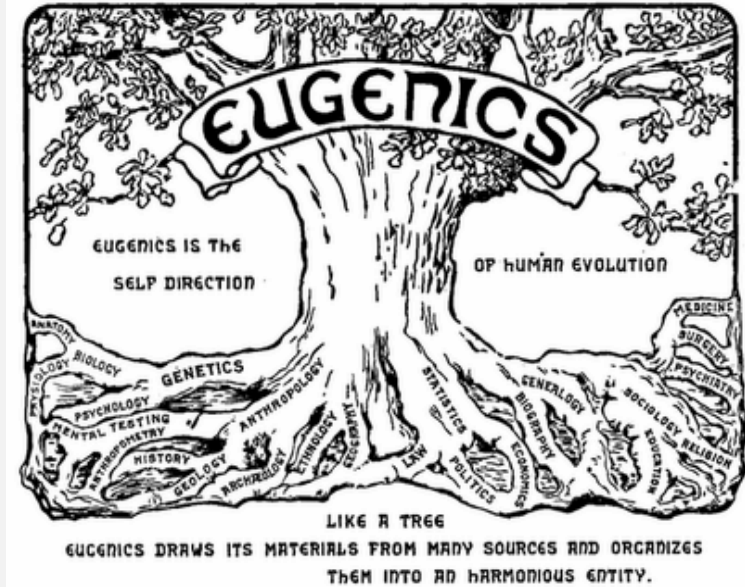


Image: <https://amciv.files.wordpress.com/2009/02/racistimageat2.jpg>

EUGENICS

- The science of improving human heredity characteristics – race could be ‘improved’ through selective breeding.
- Class-based
- False science
- Relies on fallacy that traits are hereditary and fixed.



British Eugenics Society (1907-1994)

Francis Galton

- Defines 'eugenics' as 'well-born'
- Discussed categorizations of people and sterilization programs, but not legalized.

American Eugenics Society (1922-1994)

Henry Laughlin, Madison Grant, Henry Fairfield Osbourne

- Eugenics came into United States in 1907, and first legalized in Indiana
- Based on fear of immigration and poverty
- Preyed on the 'defective members of society', including many non-whites. Eugenicists wanted non-whites to stop reproducing because they were transferring their negative traits to other generations.

MADISON GRANT
(1865-1937)

The Passing of the Great Race (1916)

Creates 3 'races' of humans:

Caucasoids, Negroids,
and Mongoloids

“innate inner essences”

Promotes segregation of
unfavourable races, ghettos,
anti-Immigration laws and
attempted to restrict inter-
racial marriage.

Image: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/ff/Madison_Grant.jpg





LOCAL CONTEXT

Alberta

Alberta Sexual Sterilization Act of 1928

One of three Canadian provinces to legally recognize eugenics programs.

Approximately 3000 people sterilized who were deemed 'unfit' between 1928-1972.

- women
- youth
- minorities

25% of sterilizations were performed on Aboriginal people; including Métis.

HUMAN EXHIBITS

Ota Benga

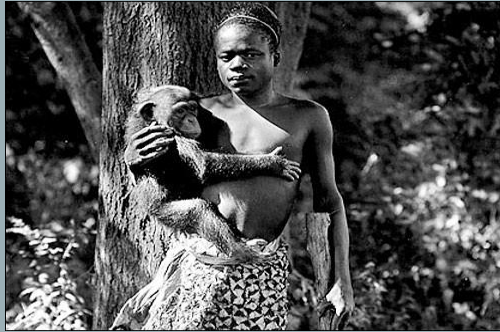


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Saartjie Baartman

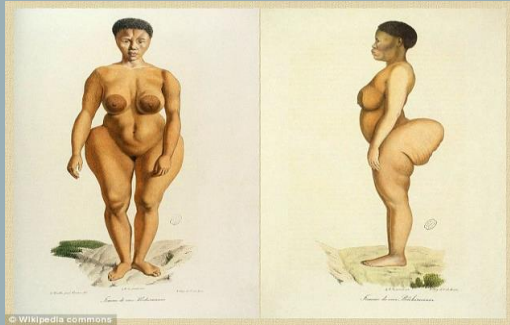


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FRANZ BOAS
(1858-1942)

Father of of Modern American
Anthropology

Promoted cultural relativism – culture
over racial classifications.

Favoured influence of social
environment over heritability

Believed that physical characteristics
DO NOT equate to 'race' – no
scientific proof

Deeply against eugenics and
sterilization programs in the United
States.



ELLIS ISLAND

Boas states that there is no evidence that some people are biologically inferior to others

Looked at original Jewish and Eastern European immigrants and then measured their next generations – had more to do with nutrition, environment and stress.



WORLD-WIDE PERSPECTIVES

Nazism made an argument for racial superiority based on a biological basis, and used many of the theories presented by early racial scientists to justify their actions.



Image: <https://images.thetrumpet.com/51f28eca!h.300,id.9308,m.fill,w.540>

HOW HAS THIS HISTORY SHAPED HOW
WE SEE THE 'OTHER' TODAY?

WHERE CAN WE SEE EVIDENCE OF THE
LEGACIES OF SCIENTIFIC RACISM
TODAY?

Research *with* Indigenous Communities

“

“The word itself ‘**research**’ is probably one of the dirtiest words in the indigenous world’s vocabulary. When mentioned in many indigenous contexts , it stirs up silence, it conjures up bad memories, it raises a smile that is knowing and distrustful. It is so powerful that Indigenous peoples even write poetry about research. The ways in which scientific research is implicated in the worst excesses of colonialism remains a powerful remembered history for many of the world’s colonized peoples.”

- Tuhiwai Smith, 2012

Emotional Triggers – Working with Trauma

- Be prepared!
 - Be aware of emotional support available in the community and in the University
 - Know professional codes surrounding disclosure
 - Think about how you will respond if someone is triggered
- Self-Care
 - Be aware of emotional labour
 - Take time in-between sessions
- Know who you are
 - Situating yourself is crucial when working with communities

Métis Aunty Advice...

“It’s not your place to put your emotional shit on communities, they have their own traumas and are not your babysitters this is taken from years of experience working with Indigenous Communities in various contexts.”

What is Indigenous-Centered Research?

- Community-Led
- Incorporates Indigenous Worldviews
- Purposeful
- Personal
- Based on relations as opposed to neutrality/objectivity
- Pushes against colonial boundaries with resistance and resilience!
- Raises up Indigenous voices

Nitty Gritty...

Theory

- An idea or set of ideas that is intended to explain something about life or the world, especially an idea that has not been proved to be true
- General principles and ideas about a subject
- An idea or opinion that someone thinks is true but for which they have no proof (Longman 2003)
- Examples of theoretical frameworks
 - Positivism
 - Postpositivism
 - Critical theory
 - Constructivism

Ontology/Epistemology/Axiology



Theoretical Framework



Methodology

Methodology

Methodology: the strategy, plan of action, process or design lying behind the choice and use of particular methods and linking the choice and use of methods to the desired outcomes. (Crotty, 1998)

How knowledge should be gathered

- Examples of methodologies
 - Survey research
 - Grounded theory
 - Ethnography

Qualitative VS Quantitative

Ontology/Epistemology/Axiology



Theoretical Framework



Methodology



Method

Method

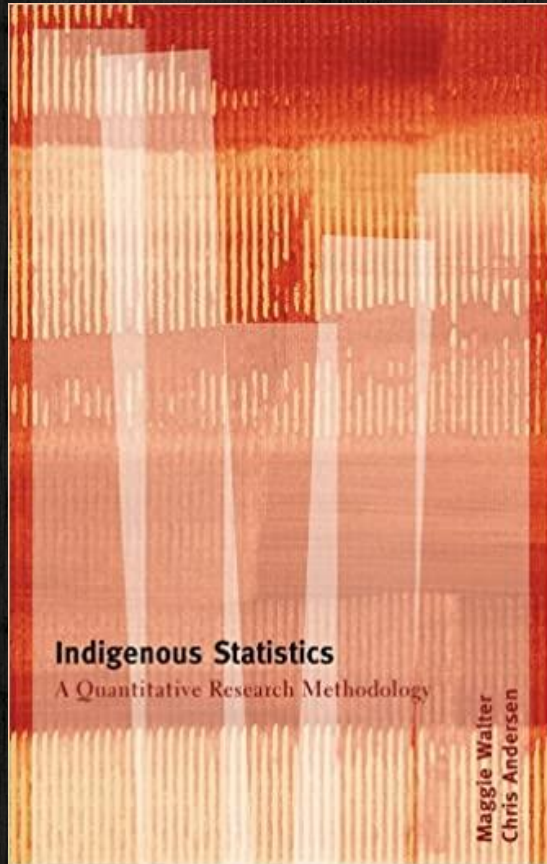
Methods: the techniques or procedures used to gather and analyse data related to some research question or hypothesis. (Crotty, 1998)

Method \neq Methodology

Indigenous Methodologies

“Research by and for Indigenous Peoples, using techniques and methods drawn from the tradition and knowledges of those people” (Evans, Hole, Berg, Hutchinson & Sookraj 2008)

Qualitative vs. Quantitative Research



You can do Indigenous Research with statistics. Check out this book!

But... be cautious because

Numbers can be triggering and the way you are presenting your information could perpetuate colonial violence against Indigenous Peoples.

Why Indigenous Methodologies?

- Recognition of colonial past and of Indigenous Peoples
- Resist colonial narratives
- Resurgence of Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being
- Insider/Outsider Research
- Preventing research extraction
- Indigenous self-determination
- Combating power dynamics in “traditional” research practices

Indigenous Methods Examples

- Storytelling
- Personal reflection
- Visiting
- Sharing Circles
- Ceremony (Formal and informal)
- Art creation (Beadwork, quillwork, moose hair tufting)
- Dance
- Plus more and more and more

Ethical Considerations

...because the process is as important as
the process

Situating Yourself in Your Work

- This lets us know who you are accountable to
- You want to identify the following:
 - Your background
 - What potential biases you bring to the table

NOTE: We will be looking for this in your research papers

Cultural Protocol

“a means to ensure that activities play out in a manner that reflects the community teachings and are done in a good way”
(Kovach, 2010)

Elder Protocol and Guidelines

Remember: Protocol differs among Elders and communities

Cultural Considerations

Who are we researching for?

Who will benefit from this research?

Consider the story you want to tell...

- Stereotyping
 - Try to avoid the 3D's (Drinking, Dancing, Dead)
- Cultural Appropriation

Collaboration

The difference between researching *on* and researching *with* Indigenous Peoples

Before bringing a project forward to the community:

- How will they benefit from this project?
- What are your current relationships to the community?
- What is your research process? How transparent is your research plan?
- At what point(s) in your research are you connecting to community?

Consent and Ownership

This must come from the community where the Traditional Knowledge and Oral Tradition comes from

DO NOT assume public domain

- Time limits do not apply to Indigenous cultural property

DO NOT publish any material that is in breach of Protocol

- Not everything is appropriate for publishing
- Realize that some Sacred Stories are season specific
- Not abiding by Protocol echoes colonial mentality

Compensation

AGAIN -- Who benefits from this research?

Collaboration and consultation takes time and emotional labour.

Remember that publishing research generates wealth. Ensure that Traditional Knowledge and the contribution of Indigenous Peoples are recognized professionally and financially.

**REMEMBER YOUR
RELATIONSHIPS!**

*See you
next week!*

**Week 6: Thursday, June 23rd
(Section 5: pg 63-75)**