

Indigenous Peoples : Decolonizing Cataloging in the 21st Century :

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A quick guide to assist people in understanding concepts presented.

Colonialism

In Social theory, Settler Colonialism is a distinct type of colonialism that functions through the replacement of indigenous populations with an invasive settler society that, over time, develops a distinctive identity and sovereignty. Settler colonizers “come to stay”: unlike colonial agents such as traders, soldiers, or governors, settler collectives intend to permanently occupy and assert sovereignty over indigenous lands. Settler colonialism persists in the ongoing elimination of indigenous populations, and the assertion of state sovereignty and juridical control over their lands. Settler Colonialism is an ongoing structure.

Colonialism is a multidimensional process that involves the economic, cultural, legal, and ideological domination of one people over another. It is an extreme form of exclusion that, by definition, denies the existence, reality, and legitimacy of the colonized population. The framework of colonialism is found today in a system of laws that serves the interests of the dominant population at the expense of Indigenous populations.

Imperialism

The doctrine of territorial and cultural expansion by any means necessary.

Manifest Destiny

The doctrine that Euroamerican colonization of North America was justifiable and inevitable and divinely ordained by God. The “Manifest Destiny” doctrine rationalized the genocide and removal of Indigenous peoples from their lands. A legitimizing myth of empire. Sanctioned dispossession of all non-Euroamerican [Anglo] peoples.

Post-Colonialism

An erroneous term used to describe the study of the cultural legacy of colonialism and imperialism. It focuses on the human consequences of the control and exploitation of colonized peoples, dispossessed from their lands. Refers to the socioeconomic, cultural, and legal legacy of colonialism. This legacy appears in various forms, such as cultural genocide, forced assimilation, historic trauma and grief, and the suppression of the colonial story to the point of denying or rendering Indigenous culture invisible.

Decolonization

The ongoing processes used to contest and reframe narratives about indigenous peoples, their histories and the effects of. Settler colonization, imperialism and manifest destiny, genocide and forced cultural assimilation. Decolonization is a vital component of the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT).

Postmodern Theory

While there is no unified Postmodern theory, it is a late 20th century intellectual movement that involves theories that acknowledges and embraces diversity, uncertainty, flexibility and change. Postmodernism challenges ideas and concepts taken for granted. Postmodernism challenges the validity of discourse. A critical gaze to the way that 'knowledge' is constructed and of colonial essentialist understanding.

Sovereignty

Sovereignty is more than a concept that each tribal nation has the legal right to self-govern their people and their lands. The treaties between the United States Congress and tribes recognizes each tribe as being equal to the United States as holding supreme law over their lands.

Sovereignty is a type of political power. Each tribe through their treaty rights exercises, or has the right to exercise, self-determination.

Disrupting

To alter, drastically alter, existing structures.