

Media Representation of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls:

Creating, Maintaining, and Silencing the Violence

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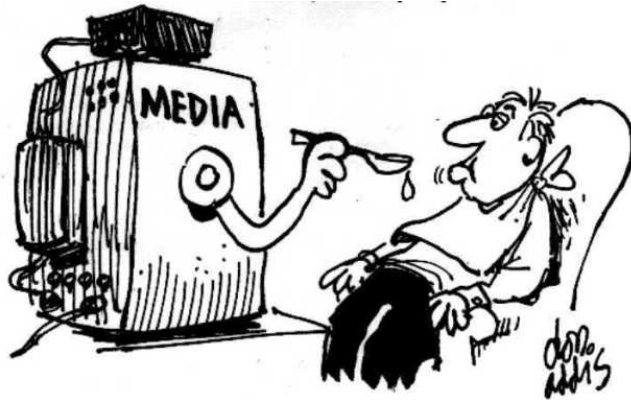
Senior Researcher, National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

MMIWG2S is Genocide



Picture: National Inquiry Commissioners on June 3, 2019 taken from CBC

Media Representation Matters



Picture: Don Addis cartoon

Creating the Violence: The Queen



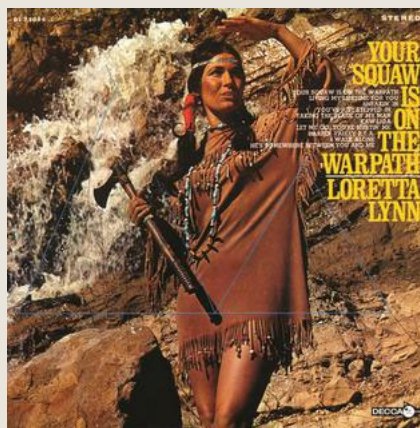
Picture: Personification of America. Engraving, ca. 1595, by Adrien Collaert II after Martin de Vos. taken from Green, Rayna "The Pocahontas Perplex"

Creating the Violence: The Indian Princess



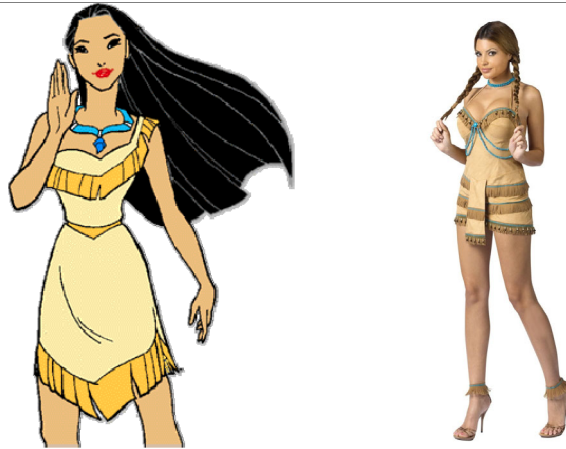
Picture: Loudon & Co.'s Cherokee Liniment. Advertisement taken from Green, Rayna "The Pocahontas Perplex"

Creating the Violence: The Squ*w



Picture: Loretta Lynn, "Your Squ*w is on a Warpath"

Maintaining the Violence: Popular Culture and Entertainment



Pictures: "Walt Disney Pictures Presents Pocahontas", 1995; "Sexy Indian Princess Costume" taken from Amazon

Maintaining the Violence: Political Cartoons



Pictures: Graeme MacKay cartoon 2019; Michael de Adder cartoon 2019

Maintaining the Violence: News Framing of MMIWG as "High-Risk" Individuals

**"She was a known crack cocaine user who often worked the streets to make money to support her habit" –
*Winnipeg Free Press***

Quote: *Winnipeg Free Press*, September 26, 2003

Silencing the Violence: Lack of Media Coverage



Picture: Blank newspaper taken from Getty Images

Silencing the Violence: Dehumanizing Coverage

Expert describes blade, bullet marks on skull

Winnipeg Free Press

City

Decomposed body identified Remains found by rail worker those of missing prostitute

Picture: *Globe and Mail* headline, May 8, 2007; *Winnipeg Free Press* headline, September 20 2003

The *Toronto Star's* Big "Debate"

The Big Debate

Does Canada's treatment of Indigenous People amount to genocide?

- ☐ Yes. Policy is destroying Indigenous people
- ☐ No. The violence was not to destroy a group

[Vote](#)

[View Results](#)

Picture: *Toronto Star* Poll, June 12, 2019

Wado (thank you)!

Questions?