



## International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies

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### Editorial

**Aileen Moreton- Robinson, Maggie Walter and David Singh**

This edition of the *International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies* marks the tenth since the journal's launch in 2008. During that time, over forty articles and eleven book reviews have been published, which is testament to the continuing upward trajectory of Critical Indigenous Studies. Although there continues to be an increasing range of areas of Indigenous research to which a critical focus is brought to bear, a consistent issue for many of the journal's contributors has been the delineation and application of Indigenous methods and methodologies in social research. The present edition is no exception, with two articles focussing on Indigenous-centred research. The first, by Krystal Summers, reflexively explores the author's experiences as an undergraduate student undertaking Indigenous-centred research in Peru. As an Indigenous First Nations woman, Summers was mindful that her research practice was faithful to the ethics and protocols outlined in her original project proposal. Her subsequent 'journey of critical reflexive understanding and storytelling' supports the proposition of current literature in Indigenous research methodologies that a properly critical Indigenous ethnography will naturally enjoin with Indigenous epistemologies and methodologies.

The second article, by Ambelin Kwaymullina, Blaze Kwaymullina and Lauren Butterly, is similarly concerned with Indigenous methodologies, particularly the ways in which published sources such as poetry, life histories, creation stories and scholarly articles now form an extensive part of the 'Indigenist research' repertoire. Of specific interest to the authors is the degree to which these published sources, where Indigenous knowledges have taken expression in text, are valued within the Western academy.

In 'Taking Care of the Ancestral Language', Satu Uusiantti and Erika Sarivaara critically reflect upon their study of Non-status Sámi who, despite being defined as being of Sámi descent, are nonetheless denied official Sámi status by the Finnish law of the Sámi Parliament. The article focuses on a bitter irony of this denial, namely, the revitalisation of the Sámi language and culture by a group of non-status Sámi, a development that confounds the official determination that they fail to fulfil the criteria of Sáminess. The article serves as a reminder that Indigenous identities are multifaceted and thus defy legislative ossification.

Finally, Andrew Gunstone examines the involvement of Indigenous people in leadership and governance within Australian universities. Presenting the findings of a survey on the strategies deployed by universities to involve Indigenous people in institutional governance, the author concludes that the picture is largely one of failure.

### Book Review

*Racialized policing: Aboriginal people's encounters with the police*, by Elizabeth Comack; Fernwood Publishing, Winnipeg: 2012.

Reviewed by Tia Dafnos, PhD candidate, York University, Toronto.