

December 3rd?

https://www.tabroom.com/index/tourn/index.mhtml?tourn_id=20771

George Santayana once said that
'Those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it'.

Despite thinking that outdated ideas like racism and sexism are things of the past, we are still living in an age where the fight for equality is ongoing. Although we're trying to **rectify** the wrongs of the past, we are still dealing with the ghosts of them that continue to haunt us.

As with many cultures, their practices, stories, and beliefs are **predominantly** passed down as teachings from one generation to the next. However, when there is no one to pass on the culture- it becomes forgotten.

According to BBC, the Government's policy of forced assimilation meant that approximately "150,000 First Nations, Métis and Inuit children were taken from their families during this period and placed in state-run boarding schools." That is how many children were forcibly taken away from their cultures and communities. That is how many children were forced to assimilate to what the Government considered to be Canadian ideals.

CBC continues that, "The TRC identified 3,200 confirmed deaths, though it noted that the work of identification and commemoration was "far from complete". Some go so far as to speculate that there are closer to "6,000 children [who] may have died."

As a result of Residential Schooling, Indigenous children were **killed** and **forced** to assimilate to Western culture. As a result of this Indigenous Cultures were forever affected by Residential Schools. This is just one of many ways that we still live in a society that deals with the aftermath of colonization. Although the last Residential School closed in 1996, in 2022 we are still dealing with the repercussions of what had occurred.

But that was in the past!

Now, Canada is considered a multicultural country, we believe in immigration and celebrating cultures!

Unless your culture is too weird,
or too different,
or not trendy enough.

Then stop.

The same things that Asians were once mocked for are now accepted, but only when they're **not** being done by an Asian person.

Wow, you can speak another language!

Speaking Korean, Mandarin, Japanese- if you're not Asian, makes you cultured!

If you're Asian,
you get spat on,
Assaulted,
and verbally abused.

Those actions lead to 8 women in Atlanta spas being shot to death and the case wasn't ruled a hate crime because the poor fellow was just "having a bad day" or so says Captain Jay Baker.

Jasmine Harris states that

*"The irony of the rise of this trend is that it **coincides** with this current moment of violence against the Asian community,"*

and that

"at the end of the day, [they] can take off their makeup and change their clothes, while Asians are the ones who have to face the consequences."

We are left unsure during times of crisis if people like Captain Jay baker is actually a public agent who will defend us and our rights

ooooo if they are secretly selling anti-china COVID-19 shirts promoting slogans such as:

"Covid-19 IMPORTED VIRUS FROM CHY-NA"

and deeming these hate crimes as merely "bad days".

We want to be proud of our heritage but society tells us it's only okay if it's not us who celebrate it.

So you may be wondering,
what can we do about this?
How do we finally put these ghosts to rest?

The simplest solution that I would like to offer you all today is to **learn,**
educate yourselves on these issues,
and then support the groups who aim to make this change.

As the saying by Edmund Burke goes,
“The only thing necessary for evil to **triumph** is for good [people] to do
nothing”.

The beautiful thing about the modern age is that these resources are
immediately available to us,
ready to go at our fingertips!
Groups such as **Black Lives Matter,**
Every Child Matters,
Stop Asian Hate,
and many more are fighting every day to make major social changes and
make the world a better place.
So I implore of you all,
to act. To educate. To stand with change.

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*Although we treat racism as something of the past,
we are still dealing with the repercussions of this event to this day.
We say we understand the lessons this tragic event taught us about culture
and heritage and pride and yet-
we don't act as though we do.
By teaching what we have learnt from these events and putting them into
practice
where we can, we will become able to avoid repeating the mistakes of our
past.*

