

Justice Delayed Must Not Be Denied

By

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Imagine yourself as a four year old child who loves to spend time with mum and dad and your siblings. A child who likes to swing on ropes and swings, hug mum, dad and siblings, and run and play around with friends.

Suddenly, you see a truck coming towards your home. You would, as a four year old be curious and enthusiastic to see new visitors. Two men alight from the truck, and carry you and your brother and sister from your mother's lap and push all three of you forcefully into their truck. Your parents plead and beg the two men not to take away their children but they are totally ignored. They tell your parents that they know what's best for all their children.

As the truck moves away from your home, your mother sobs and runs after the truck, crying, screaming, and calling for her children. The children have no idea if they would ever see their parents again.

We arrive at a strange place. We are separated from one another. We are confused and frightened because we cannot communicate with these strangers. We miss our parents, our siblings and our home.

We are now forced have to learn a different language, eat different foods, and wear different clothes. If you disobey, the punishment will be harsh. Your identity disappears.

Let us go ahead to more than one hundred and fifty five years. The indigenous people have been victims of discrimination. In 2020 the United Nations Declaration on Indigenous rights stated that we must respect, recognize and protect the Humans rights of the Indigenous people and attack the wrongs of the past. (Canada, Justice Laws Website, 2021, preamble).

This means that we have to treat the Indigenous people with equality, and inclusivity with which other Canadians are treated with. Justice has certainly been delayed. It is extremely important to respect indigenous cultures and treat the indigenous people with utmost respect. They are just as human as we are and they should not be discriminated against. They have equal rights to all benefits Canadians enjoy.

When we wear an Orange shirt on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, we should wear it with reconciliation in both our hearts and our minds. We all should take greater responsibility to stop discrimination against indigenous people. Let us all stand together to uphold Indigenous rights. Let our voices be heard to bring justice for our Indigenous people

Thank You