



Towards Cultural Safety: Supporting Aboriginal Families and Workers Through Cultural Competence


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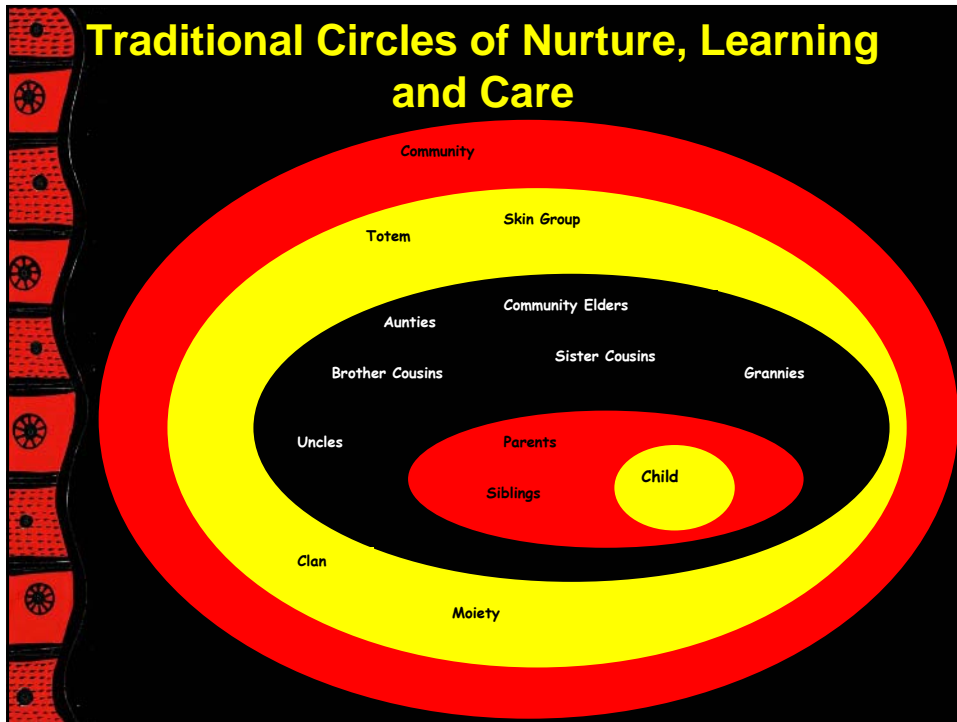
Towards cultural safety

Mainstream CSO's exist within the dominant
culture

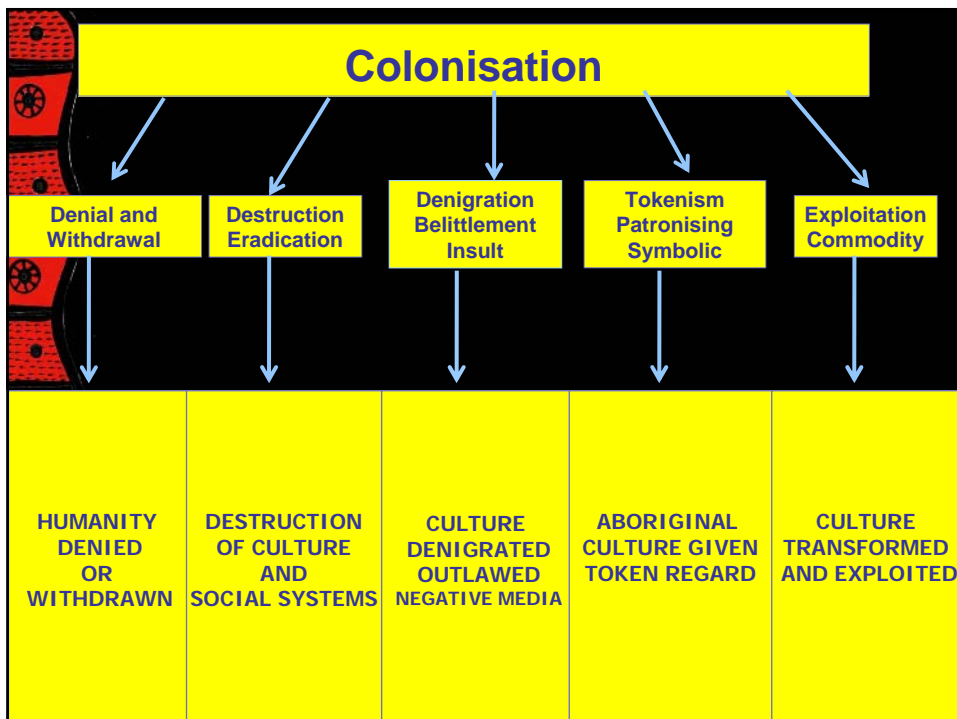
Our challenge is to have mainstream services step
outside the world of *'taken for granted'* privileges and
understand the experiences of Aboriginal people in
accessing their services



Traditional Circles of Nurture, Learning and Care



Colonisation

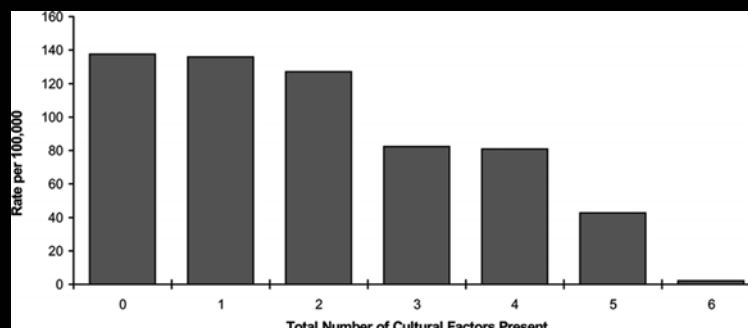


Embedding Culture as Resilience

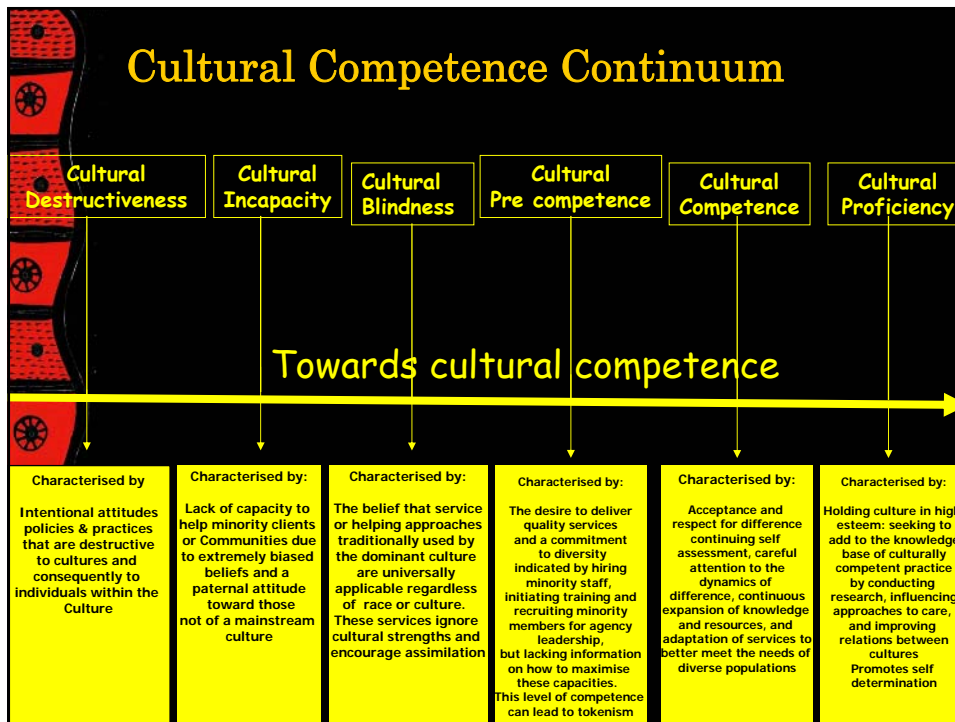
Culture is central to identity. Culture defines who we are, how we think, how we communicate, what we value and what is important to us. We now know that fostering cultural identity is in the best interests of the child.

EXAMPLE OF COMMUNITY-LEVEL INDICATORS AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO A HEALTH OUTCOME –

An index of “cultural continuity” comprised of six marker variables: degree to which each of B.C.’s individual bands have already secured 1) some measure of self government; some control over the delivery of 2) health, 3) education, 4) policing services, and 5) cultural resources; and 6) are otherwise at work litigating for Aboriginal title to traditional lands.



Suicide rates by number of factors present in the community (1987–1992). (Taken from Chandler M and Proulx T. Changing selves in changing worlds: youth suicide on the fault lines of colliding cultures. *Archives of Suicide Research* 2006; 10: 125-140. 2006).



Aboriginal Cultural Wellbeing Needs



Understanding Cultural Competence

- *identify the way your culture influences your organisation and its practices
- *understand our culture is different to that of the dominant culture
- *never forget our history and be mindful of the collective trauma this has on our people and communities today
- *keep our children connected to their culture or work with them to re-connect to culture
- *build respectful partnerships with our people and organisations and
- *respect our right to self-determination.



Communities of Embrace

- Focus on family and community
- Building on strengths
- Building on culture
- Restoring the circles of care
- Closing the gap in our relationships