

PART 3:

ASSIMILATION

A COMMON STRATEGY OF COLONIAL REGIMES IS TO ASSIMILATE SURVIVING NATIVE PEOPLES INTO THE COLONIAL SOCIETY ITSELF...



THIS MAKES THE NATIVE EASIER TO CONTROL, AS WELL AS AN OBEDIENT WORKER AND CONSUMER IN THE COLONIAL SYSTEM...

IN THE AMERICAS, THIS WAS DONE BY FORCING NATIVE CHILDREN TO ATTEND SCHOOLS RUN BY CHURCHES + PRIESTS.



THEY WERE KNOWN AS MISSIONS, INDUSTRIAL, OR RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS...

BEFORE



AFTER



CHILDREN WERE FORBIDDEN TO SPEAK THEIR LANGUAGE OR PRACTISE THEIR CULTURE. MANY WERE ABUSED BY PRIESTS + STAFF.

RELIGION AND SCHOOLS ARE THE MAIN FORMS OF ASSIMILATING NATIVE PEOPLES.



THRU THESE, THE NATIVE'S CULTURE AND HISTORY ARE ERASED, REPLACED BY THOSE OF THE OCCUPYING NATION...

IN N. AMERICA, RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS EXISTED FROM THE MID-1800S UNTIL THE 1980s.



ENTIRE GENERATIONS WERE FORCED TO ADAPT EUROPEAN CULTURE + VALUES. TODAY'S GENERATIONS ARE THE MOST ASSIMILATED AND COLONIZED...

A GOOD EXAMPLE OF ASSIMILATION IS THE ROMAN COLONIZATION OF WESTERN EUROPE. SOME REGIONS WERE OCCUPIED FOR AS LONG AS 500 YEARS...



ALTHO' THE EUROPEAN TRIBES RESISTED, OVER TIME MOST HAD BECOME 'LATINIZED', WITH MANY LATER SERVING IN THE ROMAN ARMY OR GOVERNMENT...

TODAY, ENGLISH, FRENCH, SPANISH, GERMAN + ITALIAN HAVE THEIR ROOTS IN LATIN, THE RESULT OF ROMAN INVASION + CONQUEST...



WESTERN CIVILIZATION IS ITSELF THE RESULT OF ASSIMILATING EUROPEAN TRIBAL NATIONS INTO THE ROMAN EMPIRE...

IN N. AMERICA, RESERVATIONS WERE IMPORTANT TO REMOVE THE PEOPLE FROM THEIR LAND AND IMPOSE EUROPEAN CULTURE



SHELTER IS ONE EXAMPLE; INSTEAD OF MANY SHARING ONE SHELTER, NATIVES WERE FORCED TO LIVE IN EUROPEAN-STYLE HOUSES.

THRU LAWS SUCH AS THE INDIAN ACT, TRADITIONAL FORMS OF GOVERNMENT AND ORGANIZATION WERE BANNED...



IN PLACE OF THESE, BAND COUNCILS WERE IMPOSED, BASED ON EUROPEAN MODELS OF GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CONTROL...

THRU LOSS OF CULTURE + DESTRUCTION OF TERRITORY, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE BECOME DEPENDENT ON STATE FUNDING...



THIS MAKES THEM MORE EASILY CONTROLLED AND VULNERABLE TO BOTH GOVERNMENT AND CORPORATE PRESSURE FOR RESOURCES.

TO THIS END, STATES CONTINUE POLICIES OF LEGAL, POLITICAL + ECONOMIC ASSIMILATION OF NATIVE PEOPLES + RESERVE LAND...



THEIR GOAL IS TO DESTROY ALL INDIGENOUS CULTURE + IDENTITY THAT INSPIRES OUR SPIRIT OF RESISTANCE, AND WHICH LIMITS THEIR PLANS OF EXPLOITATION...