

PACIFIER

Created by: Mirella Nicoll

Supervised by Fine Arts Professor, Mo Bradley

This 3-part series unmask the complexities of modern-day Indigenous relationships with religion. Colonization, genocide and the residential school system paved the contextual way for this deep dive into the realities of religion-driven "post-colonial" cultural genocide.

My documentary utilizes first-person interviews, detailed accounts, and evidence-based research into the more calculated movements of religious institutions within Indigenous reservations.



THEMATIC AND HISTORICAL RELEVANCE

Religion has been the crux of colonization for as long as it has existed, whether as justification or causation. There is still a continued genocide alive and breathing within Canada, set on eliminating the presence of Indigenous peoples, whether that be physically or spiritually. Western Religion implemented in colonized territories is and continues to be a form of assimilation wielded as a genocidal tool. This docuseries examines the current vitality of religious practice within Indigenous communities that, throughout history, have fed upon the life, health, and welfare of Indigenous peoples.



DIRECTOR/WRITER'S NOTE

As an Indigenous girl raised outside of her reserve, I got a unique perspective on the growth of religious presence in Indigenous communities, even witnessing it within my own family. I've seen how religious practices act as a crutch, offering comfort for the very pain those institutions inflicted upon colonized individuals. Prominent religious institutions capitalize on the pain of these traumatized communities. As a country, we desperately need a conversation regarding the reality of a continued genocide of Indigenous culture. This docuseries will spark that conversation; it will be the wake-up call.