

Intergenerational Impacts - Terms

Historic Trauma

The cumulative effects of trauma experienced by a group of people over generations. For aboriginal people of Canada, it comes from the many historical experiences of colonial control that has disrupted Aboriginal language, culture and identity.

Intergenerational Impact:

The trauma of survivors that is passed on from one generation to the next. It is rooted in the unresolved trauma of people who experienced or witnessed physical, emotional and sexual abuse in an Indian Residential School.

Intergenerational Survivor:

Are the children and grandchildren of Indian Residential School survivors? They may not have attended Residential School themselves, but they may have suffered abuse from their parents, grandparents, or guardians who were passing on the abuses they suffered in the system.

Lateral Violence:

Humiliating or violent behaviour towards members of a group by other members of the same group. In aboriginal communities, some people abuse their own people in ways that they have been abused themselves. They direct their anger at their peers, family and community members.

Blackline Master 13

Intergenerational Impacts of Residential Schools

Below are a number of negative outcomes experienced in some First Nations communities. In what ways are these connected to the intergenerational impacts of the Indian residential school system?

loss of language and culture

depression

high suicide and other mortality rates

substance abuse

child abuse

domestic violence

loss of parenting skills

physical and sexual abuse

self-destructive behaviour

inability to express emotion or love

gossip

family feuds

family violence

Elder abuse

violence against women

gangs

Outcomes of Residential Schools

	Individual	Family	Community	General
Positive				
Negative				
Short-term				
Long-term				