Stages of Relationship

BETWEEN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND NON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN CANADA

A cure for Racism – Napoleon Wells video follow-up

- In conceptualizing <u>the process of crisis intervention</u>, has identified seven critical stages through which clients typically pass on the road to crisis stabilization, resolution, and mastery These stages, listed below, are essential, sequential, and sometimes overlapping in the process of crisis intervention:
- ▶ 1: plan and conduct a thorough biopsychosocial and lethality/imminent danger assessment;
- 2: make psychological contact and rapidly establish the collaborative relationship;
- 3: identify the major problems, including crisis precipitants;
- 4: encourage an exploration of feelings and emotions;
- ▶ 5: generate and explore alternatives and new coping strategies;
- ▶ 6: restore functioning through implementation of an action plan;
- 7: plan follow-up and booster sessions.

THE REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON ABORIGINAL PEOPLES IDENTIFIES FOUR STAGES IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN CANADA:

STAGE 1: SEPARATE WORLDS

STAGE 2: NATION-TO-NATION RELATIONS

STAGE 3: RESPECT GIVES WAY TO DOMINATION

STAGE 4: RENEWAL AND RENEGOTIATION

Stage 1: Separate Worlds

- Stage 1: Separate Worlds
- refers to the millennia before Europeans landed on the shores of Turtle Island (North America)
- when the only inhabitants of this continent were the ancestors of today's First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people.

Stage 2: Nation-to-Nation Relations

- Nation-to-Nation Relations began with the arrival of the first Europeans on Turtle Island in the 16th century.
- During this stage, the relationship between Indigenous and European peoples was one of equality.
- Without the aid of the Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island, the newcomers would not have been able to survive in what was to them an often-hostile environment.
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people were trading partners and military allies of the European settlers

Stage 3: Respect Gives Way to Domination

- ▶ Respect Gives Way to Domination began after the War of 1812 when the
- military services of Indigenous peoples were no longer required by the settler society.
- As the economic focus of the European newcomers shifted from the fur trade to farming and natural resource extraction, the respect that the settler society had shown towards Indigenous nations changed to a colonial mindset characterized by attitudes of superiority and dominance.
- Indigenous peoples were often seen as obstacles to the pursuit of the new economies.
- During this stage, Indigenous populations living in the territories coveted by Europeans were displaced, relocated, or had their territories expropriated to accommodate the needs of settler societies.
- Land cessation treaties confined First Nations to reserves that were a fraction of their traditional territories.
- Colonial—and later Canadian— governments pursued a policy of <u>assimilation</u>. <u>Measures</u>, <u>such as attempts to extinguish Aboriginal title to land</u>, the <u>Indian Act</u>, <u>residential schools</u>, <u>relocations</u>, and <u>enfranchisement</u>, were intended to eradicate Indigenous cultures.

Stage 4: Renewal and Renegotiation

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- shows how renewal of Indigenous cultures in Canada gained impetus in the second half of the 20th century,
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people began to organize politically in an attempt to forge new relationships with Canada. In the 1970s, First Nations began negotiating modern treaties (comprehensive land-claims settlements) with Canada.
- In 1982, the Constitution Act recognized Indian, Métis, and Inuit people as Aboriginal peoples of Canada who had special rights as Indigenous inhabitants of the country.
- In 1999, the Inuit of the eastern Northwest Territories achieved de facto self-government with the creation of Nunavut.
- The beginnings of a cultural renewal followed the political re-awakening of Indigenous peoples in Canada as First Nations, Métis, and Inuit artists, writers, filmmakers, academics, and other professionals broke through the "buckskin curtain" to gain national and international recognition and acclaim.
- ▶ By returning to their own traditions, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people have begun to rebuild their nations and to reclaim their rights as self-determining people.

However:

- Despite these steps forward, Indigenous peoples today continue to struggle with the devastating consequences of colonization, including poverty, health and justice issues, racism, and discrimination.
- While the Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples characterizes the present era as one of renewal and negotiation, many Indigenous scholars and activists would argue that the relationship between Indigenous nations and governments (both federal and provincial) remains a colonial one.

Today's Assignment:

▶ Work on the Stereotypes assignment - Part 1