

Complex and Competing Narratives in Settler Colonial States : CANZ

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SETTLER SOCIETIES : CANADA, AUSTRALIA, NZ

1. Share a history of British (French) colonisation and “civilising narratives”
2. Occupy same territory with significant indigenous communities/nations that were autonomous peoples
3. Have contemporary regimes of migrant attraction and settlement as central to a process of “nation-state” building



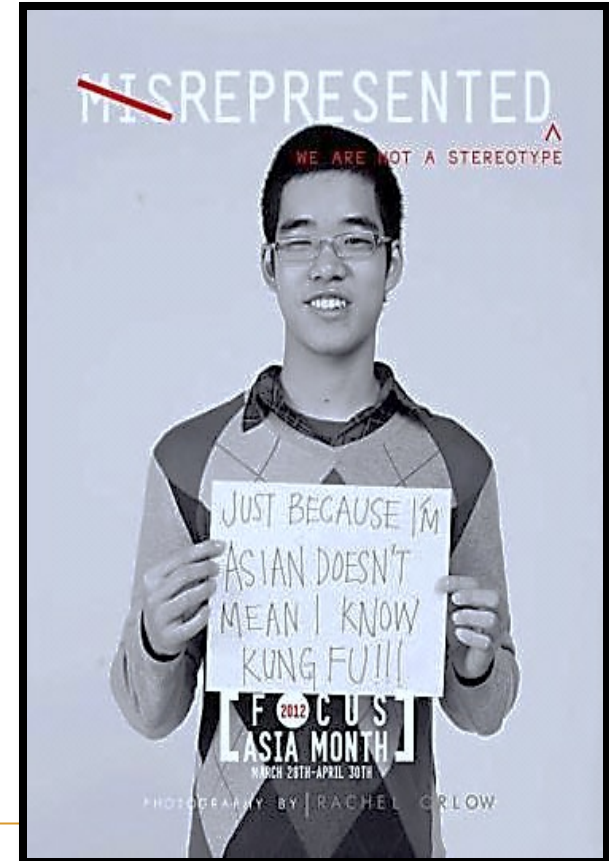
#1 INDIGENEITY IN SETTLER SOCIETIES

- Peoples who occupied territories prior to arrival of European colonialists who now exist as “Fourth Nations” (George Manuel), indigenous communities within sovereign political systems
- Subject to the exercise of power that uses “racial” social classifications, racialised subjectivities and bodies (Quijano)
- Ongoing contestation of these racialised subjectivities/ marginalisation



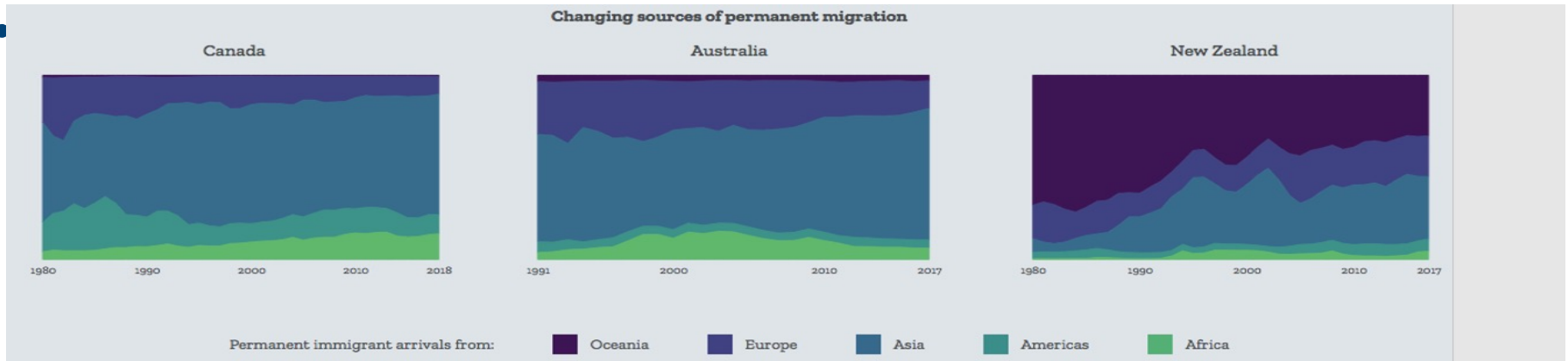
#2 IMMIGRATION IN SETTLER SOCIETIES

- Privileged (racialised) citizenship granted to certain migrants - and not others
- British - settler citizens and “natural” immigrants (Higgins)
- Structured and managed systems of immigrant recruitment as part of “nation-state” building project
- State-sponsored multiculturalism (biculturalism for Aotearoa/NZ)



#2 IMMIGRATION IN SETTLER SOCIETIES

- Post-1980s – neoliberal regimes of “pick and choose” (points) systems
- Focus on **economic added** value of immigration and migrants
- Similar source country inflows and visa categories/priorities



#3 MANAGING DIVERSITY IN SETTLER SOCIETIES

- State and institutional privileging of specific forms of difference
- Complicity in creating and reproducing diversity recognition as a way of “managing municipal diversity” (Gidley)
- Reinforces neoliberal modes of governmentality (Ndhlovu)
- Disconnect between indigeneity and immigrant related identity/rights



#4 WHITE HEGEMONY IN SETTLER SOCIETIES

- “Whiteness” synonymous with nationality, “civilisation” and progress
- White racial formations and discourses central to retelling of colonial past
- Hegemonic group(s) which create, determine and manage key institutions and policies – and are beneficiaries
- Conceptualise role and nature of this racialised hegemony



#5 REVIVAL OF TOXIC/NOSTALGIC NATIONALISM

- Surge of racial nostalgia and exclusive nationalisms (post 2000s, especially since 2015-16 + during pandemic)
- Reinterpretation of grammar of racism (“great replacement”)
- Reinforce/weaponise colonial/racist nation and myths of belonging (unbelonging) + racialised citizenship



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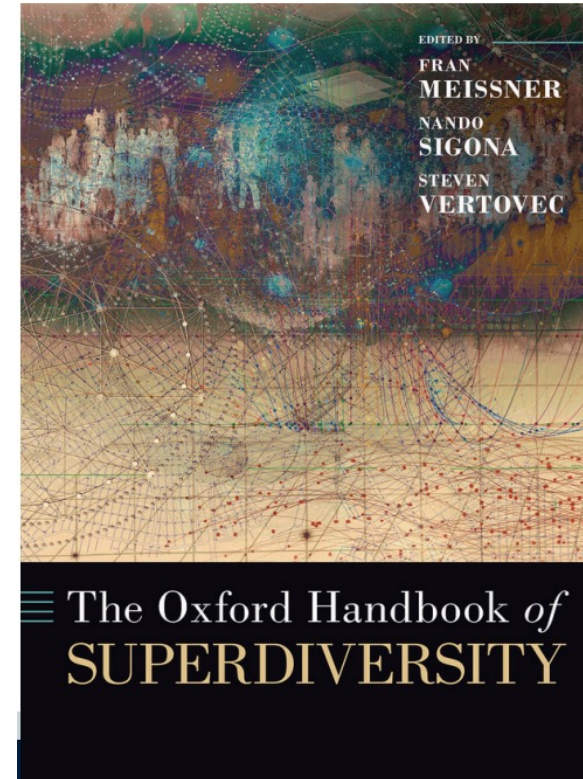
DECOLONIALITY.....

“...has opened up the re-construction and the restitution of silenced histories, repressed subjectivities, subalternized knowledges and languages...[the] project of “desprendimiento” [Quijano], of de-coloniality [or] the decolonization of knowledge, being..[and the] fracture with both the Eurocentered project of post-modernity and the project of post-coloniality” (Walter Mignolo)



DECOLONIALITY

- Draw upon non-Western epistemologies and politics to counter universalised modernist approaches/frameworks
- Understand and address the implications of “non-normative alterities” (Higgins), including Indigenous and exogenous discursive labelling and questions of white hegemony
- Collaborative modes of enquiry and activism (Gidley, Smith)



CHALLENGING SETTLER SOCIETY NARRATIVES

- Agency and rights of Fourth Nations
- Critique of immigrant recruitment/integration, discursive labelling and racialised citizenship
- Critical understanding of hegemonic “white” groups
- Nature of contemporary exclusion, including material inequality and nostalgic nationalism
- New approaches to critique and co-production/alliances

