



Universal Declaration of Human Rights and First Nations Rights Infractions

ARTICLE 1

All human beings are born free and equal in **dignity and rights**. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Through the Indian Act, the Indian Agent's control could even extend into the private life of Indians, as, for example, in inspecting Indian households for signs of untidiness.

ARTICLE 2

Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms, set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, **language religion, political** or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political jurisdictional, or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self governing or other limitation of sovereignty.

First Nations children placed in residential schools were not permitted to speak their own language. If they did speak their language, they were punished.

Parliament outlawed the potlatch. The potlatch was the major social, economic and political forum used by First Nations people. From 1884 to 1951 it was a criminal offense for Natives to practice their traditional culture in the form of feasts, potlatches and sundances.

From 1884 - 1906 Parliament passed the Indian Advancement Act promoting the dismantling of traditional forms of governance.

ARTICLE 3

Everyone has the right to life, **liberty** and security of person.

In 1765 the reserve system in Canada begins.

ARTICLE 4

No one shall be held in slavery or **servitude**; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

From 1910 to 1950's: There is a cut on the academia portion of residential schooling and Native students are used as free labour to maintain schools.

ARTICLE 5

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Residential schools were established from 1883 -1980. First Nations children were subject to cruel and degrading treatment in residential schools.