BAD, BAD INDIAN.
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RUTH CUTHAND, MISUSE AND ABUSE SERIES, 1999. AUTUMN, GRAPHITE ON PAPER
8 BIGGEST FEARS THAT ORGANIZERS OF WOMEN, CONTEMPORARY ABORIGINAL ISSUES, AND RESISTANCE MAY HAVE WHILE USING THIS KIT:

1. We might support some racist practices and attitudes if we’re non-Aboriginal.

2. We might discover that we have internalized racism if we are Aboriginal.

3. We might feel helpless to change any of the negative things we discover.

4. We might try and make change and fail.

5. We might try and make change and succeed, then we’d have to continue making change.

6. We might be really guilty and embarrassed about what we don’t know about Aboriginal peoples in Canada, whether we are Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal.

7. We might get really angry because we didn’t personally cause the negative conditions of Aboriginal peoples.

8. We may accept responsibilities that feel too big to carry out.

These materials in the Women, Contemporary Aboriginal Issues, and Resistance kit are the result of interactions with 20 university students; the 5 distinguished Aboriginal women you’ll meet on the DVD; approximately 100 high school students; and 300 adults who generously gave their time.

HOW TO USE THIS LEARNING KIT:

You do not need a teacher, although you may want to have a discussion leader/organizer. Recommended for ages 14 and up. Groups as large as 30 or a single individual can study Women, Contemporary Aboriginal Issues, and Resistance.

THERE ARE SIX ITEMS IN THE KIT:

- The “Fears” card is what you’re reading now. Please read this card first.

- Three Storybooks. Read the books in order, Book 1 (three chapters); then Book 2 (three chapters); finally Book 3 (seven journal entries). You can read the books in three sessions with discussion, or in 13 sessions, one chapter each, with discussion.

- DVD (9 chapters) screen at any time, although it may be best to look at the first 3 DVD chapters before you read Book 1; screen DVD chapters 4-6 before you read Book 2; and screen DVD chapters 7-9 before you read Book 3. The DVD features five distinguished Aboriginal women who are scholars, artists, and activists (Dr. Joan Glode, CM, First Nations Child & Family Caring Society board member, social worker, Mi’kmaq, Halifax; Ursula A. Johnson, basket-maker and performance artist, Mi’kmaq, Eskasoni First Nation; Shirley Bear, CM, visual artist, Maliseet, Tobique First Nation; Ruth Cuthand, visual artist, Cree, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon; Dorothy Christian, filmmaker, PhD candidate, Okanagan-Secwépemc Nations, Vancouver).

- The “Additional Resources” card. Please read at any time.

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