

Colonial Photography Summary Worksheet

Photography is used in a number of ways within the colonized countries.

[Terminology note: Colonizers = Europeans and Colonized = Indigenous people]

1. Photography is used by colonizers to show that the colonized subjects are inferior and different (more primitive, less advanced)
2. Colonizers use photography to gain knowledge about colonized subjects: their practices, ceremonies, and their bodies.
3. Colonial photographs are sometime souvenirs or postcards
4. Photography has been used by colonizers to show that the colonial project has been successful
5. Photography has been also used by colonizers to support the idea that colonized people are 'dying out'

Indigenous subjects have also used photography to gain greater agency over their own lives

6. To show themselves as diplomats
7. As bargaining tools in negotiations with government, by showing that they are willing and successful colonial subjects.

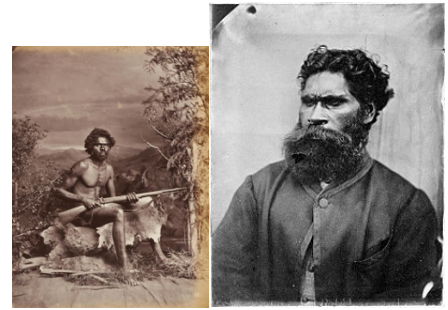
The colonial 'archive' includes all these images

8. Contemporary indigenous artists draw from the colonial archive to reflect on the power dynamics of this archive

Reading:

Wendy Garden, "Ethical witnessing and the portrait photograph: Brook Andrew" in *Journal of Australian Studies*, 2011

Brenda L. Croft, "Laying Ghosts to Rest" in *Judy Annear Portraits of Oceania*. Sydney, AGNSW, 1997 (available via open lab)



82 Fred Kruger: Family of Colonial Settlers. From *Southern Alliance of the South Australian*, 1850. Album 100, 1850s. West Wall Street Collection. By permission of the National Library of Australia.



Eliza's daughter.
wrote a letter and sent it to Grace
who acknowledged it by a letter.