

Considerations around Research Involving Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Peoples

AARE considers it vital that any activity conducted under the auspices of AARE, regardless of the activity's venue, are conducted in a manner that is a safe and trusted environment for all attendees, staff and volunteers.

AARE recognises the ongoing pressures of colonisation and the intergenerational effects of historical trauma and racism still prevalent today and risking future generations. All activities must seek to support and/or contribute to the transformative processes of decolonisation, emancipation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities. This is achieved by privileging the diversities within and across Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander protocols, sovereignty, self-determination and Country, and must be extended to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and First Nations Peoples present.

We ask all conference participants to consider if their research/presentation directly or indirectly engages with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities in any way. This includes any of the following:

- Identification as 'participants' within the research (even if categorised as a minority group within a larger participant group).
- Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Knowledges (e.g., Traditional Knowledges, archival sources, Indigenous theories).
- Engagement with Western Colonial representations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (e.g., colonial archives, non-Indigenous theory/research 'representing' Indigenous peoples).

In attempting to represent research that may interact with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, Knowledges, and representations thereof, AARE requires presenters to include an 'Indigenous Research Background' slide. This must include the following:

- A clear statement of your positioning noting who you are, where you are from, why you are doing this research.
- A critical reflection on your place as an insider/outsider researcher within Indigenous Studies
- A consideration of how your presentation may (or may not have) have adhered to key Indigenous Research Protocols, Cultural Safety, and Indigenous Ethical guidelines.

Some Key Indigenous Research Protocols, Cultural Safety and Indigenous Ethical Guidelines to Refer to:

Indigenous ethics and protocols:

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) (2020). AIATSIS code of ethics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research. ISBN (ePDF): 9781925302363.

<https://aiatsis.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-10/aiatsis-code-ethics.pdf>

National Health and Medical Research Council (2018). Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities: Guidelines for researchers and stakeholders. Commonwealth of Australia: Canberra. <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/resources/ethical-conduct-research-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples-and-communities>

Australia Council for the Arts (2019). Protocols for using First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property in the Arts. Australian Government. <https://www.australiacouncil.gov.au/workspace/uploads/files/protocols-for-using-first-nati-5f72716d09f01.pdf>

United Nations General Assembly (2007). United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Adopted by the General Assembly, 2 October 2007, A/RES/61/295. <https://www.refworld.org/docid/471355a82.html>

Positioning and Insider/outsider:

Proud, D. & Morgan, A. (2021). Critical self-reflection: A foundational skill. In Shay, M. & Oliver, R. (eds). *Indigenous Education in Australia: Learning and teaching for deadly futures* (pp. 38-51). Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge.

Walter, M., & Suina, M. (2019). Indigenous data, indigenous methodologies and indigenous data sovereignty. *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*, 22(3), 233-243.

Russell-Mundine, G. (2012). Reflexivity in indigenous research: Reframing and decolonising research?. *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management*, 19(1), 85-90.

Innes, R. A. (2009). "Wait a Second. Who Are You Anyways?" The insider/outsider debate and American Indian Studies. *American Indian Quarterly*, 33(4), 440-461.

Dew, A., McEntyre, E., & Vaughan, P. (2019,). Taking the research journey together: the insider and outsider experiences of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal researchers. *Qualitative Social Research: Sozialforschung* 20(1) 1-17.