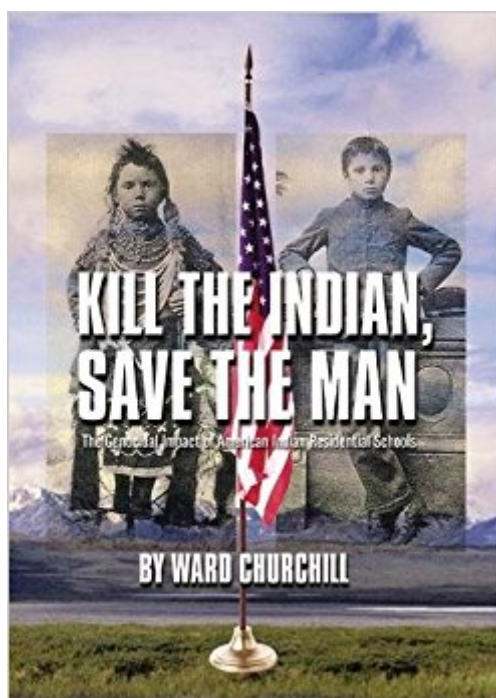


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# Kill The Indian, Save The Man: The Genocidal Impact Of American Indian Residential Schools



## Synopsis

For five consecutive generations, from roughly 1880 to 1980, Native American children in the United States and Canada were forcibly taken from their families and relocated to residential schools. The stated goal of this government program was to "kill the Indian to save the man." Half of the children did not survive the experience, and those who did were left permanently scarred. The resulting alcoholism, suicide, and the transmission of trauma to their own children has led to a social disintegration with results that can only be described as genocidal. "The Indian residential schools in both the US and Canada... include[d] the forced exile of children and the prohibition of the use of a national language or religion.... Churchill presents a bleak yet utterly necessary history of a brutal system that was in effect until 1990." - Booklist

"Painful and powerful, Kill the Indian, Save the Man provides the first comprehensive study of the effects of the residential schools into which American Indian children were forced by the U.S. and Canadian governments. With his usual painstaking accuracy and moving prose, Churchill exposes the genocidal nature of this important dimension of the assimilationist policies that continue to decimate Native North American communities. This book is essential reading for anyone concerned with the ravages of settler state colonialism or the effects of transgenerational trauma." - Natsu Taylor Saito, Professor of Law, Georgia State University, and author of We Have Met the Enemy

American Exceptionalism and Subversion of the Rule of Law

"The analysis and evidence deployed herein are both compelling and altogether consistent with what I've discovered in my own research and experience as a judge on a special tribunal assessing the effects of residential schooling on the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. I urge all people who oppose genocide from whatever source, against whatever victims to read this book." - Jim Craven (Omahkohkiaayo-iipoyi), citizen of the Blackfoot Nation and Professor of Economics, Clark College

Ward Churchill is the author of A Little Matter of Genocide, among other books. He is currently a Professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This concise discussion is a continuum to Churchill's longer 1997 work, *A Little Matter of Genocide: Holocaust and Denial in the Americas*. The author first analyzes the term genocide (coined by Raphael Lemkin in 1944), stressing that the phrase covers not only physical extermination of a people but also biological genocide (policies to prevent births within a group) and cultural genocide. The Indian residential schools in both the U.S and Canada fall squarely into this latter category, which includes the forced exile of children and the prohibition of the use of a national language or religion. Churchill next turns his attention to the schools themselves, uncovering a host of grim details. In Canada, half of the children sent to residential schools did not survive because of rampant disease, near-starvation diets, and brutal labor. In fact, Churchill observes that survivors display a level of dysfunction similar to that exhibited by concentration camp survivors. Churchill presents a bleak yet utterly necessary history of a brutal system that was in effect until 1990.

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Ward Churchill has achieved an unparalleled reputation as a scholar-activist and analyst of indigenous issues. He is a Professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder, a leading member of AIM, and the author of numerous books, including *A Little Matter of Genocide*, *Struggle for the Land*, and *Fantasies of the Master Race*.

Very sad but accurate stories about life in boarding schools.

great details and insight

great book

I chose this rating because I was very satisfied with the product but I bought it so long ago that I don't remember how long it took to arrive

This book covers a fascinating and underexamined area of US history. I was very much looking forward to reading it. The author clearly is extremely well-educated on this subject. The problem is -- he's boring. Ward Churchill writes like your typical college professor who turned you off history forever by being pedantic and uninspiring. I've worked as a book editor in the past and I have found that often the more education a writer has the worse his or her books are. Churchill seems to be underlining his scholarship with tediousness and seems to be over his head in information with no way to convey it in a readable manner. His editor should be fired for not making this book comprehensible to a wider audience. It isn't a doctoral thesis, for crying out loud. It's a disappointing treatment of what should have been an enlightening and educating experience. I wish I'd saved my money and hope, considering all the books Churchill has listed on , that he has, or will, learn to write well.

Tells the true and real story behind Americas genocide of the native American's children which forcibly removed children far away from their parents and destroyed their beliefs and often their actual lives

I purchased this book for my college history class and I actually enjoyed it. It was very interesting to read and gave a lot of insight into the way Native Americans were treated by Americans. This could also be a good research material for anyone studying the assimilation of Native cultures to American lifestyles.

Required text book in my American History Course; i got an "A" in the course; great book.

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