

## Jenna Kay

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**From:** Monica Zazueta <zazueta0813@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 5, 2024 12:54 AM  
**To:** Amy Koski; Jenna Kay; Dana Hellman; Sylvia Ciborowski; tlunsford@parametrix.com; Nicole Metildi; Harrison Husting; Ben Duncan  
**Subject:** Climate and social justice policy talk

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Declaration of Independence: A transcript

<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript#:~:text=He%20has%20excited%20domestic%20insurrections,all%20ages%2C%20sexes%20and%20conditions.>

From Declaration of Independence:

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

\*He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

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The colonization of land by European settlers often involved the displacement and mistreatment of indigenous peoples. Many indigenous communities experienced significant loss of land, resources, and cultural heritage as a result of colonization. The impact of colonization on indigenous peoples is a painful and complex part of history.

Chief Pontiac's quote, "They came with the Bible and their religion, stole our land, crushed our spirit, and now they tell us we should be thankful to the Lord for being saved", highlights the oppressive actions of colonization and the imposition of foreign religious beliefs on indigenous communities. These actions have had lasting consequences on indigenous cultures and their relationship with the land.

Recognizing and understanding the injustices of the past is an important step towards reconciliation, healing and building a more inclusive society. It's crucial to listen to and amplify the voices and experiences of indigenous peoples, and to work towards addressing the ongoing issues they face today.

Healing is crucial for both individuals and communities affected by historical injustices. Recognizing and acknowledging the pain and trauma caused by colonization is an important step towards healing. It is essential to create safe spaces for individuals to share their stories, express their emotions, and seek support.

Healing can take many forms, including cultural revitalization, land restoration, and community-led initiatives. It involves addressing the intergenerational impacts of colonization and working towards reconciliation and justice.

Supporting initiatives that promote indigenous self-determination, land rights, and cultural preservation is a meaningful way to contribute to healing processes. It is also important to listen to and learn from indigenous voices, respecting their perspectives and knowledge.

Healing is an ongoing process that requires collective effort, empathy, and a commitment to justice. By actively engaging in conversations, educating ourselves, and advocating for positive change, we can contribute to the healing and well-being of indigenous communities and work towards a more inclusive and equitable world.

While it is important to acknowledge and learn from the darker aspects of history, it is also possible to celebrate the progress that has been made and to strive for a more equitable and inclusive future. This can involve supporting indigenous communities, advocating for their rights, and promoting cultural understanding and respect.