Social Studies 10-1

Unit 1: Globalization and identity

Challenges to identity

A policy and a playlist

- For more than a century, Canadian law and churches ran residential schools for Indigenous children.
- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission heard survivors and described family separation and language loss.
- This week a global playlist on a phone repeats one commercial style in many cities.



Terms for different harms

- Assimilation pressures a people to replace language, kinship, or belief with a dominant model.
- Marginalization pushes a people away from public decisions, income, or safety.
- Homogenization flattens difference into one style, while accommodation and integration are responses that keep an identity in public.

Key terms

assimilation

Assimilation is pressure to replace a community's language, family life, or practice with those of a dominant group.

marginalization

Marginalization is being pushed to the edge of public life, resources, or decision making.

homogenization

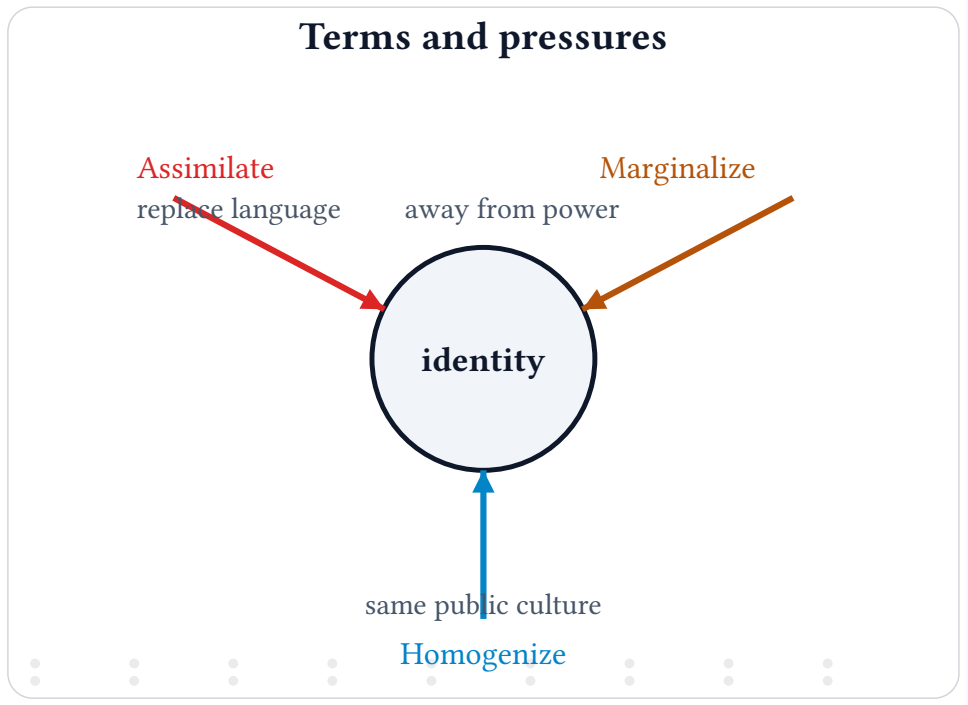
Homogenization is the flattening of cultural difference into one commercial or institutional style.

integration

Integration is participation in shared institutions while a distinct identity continues.

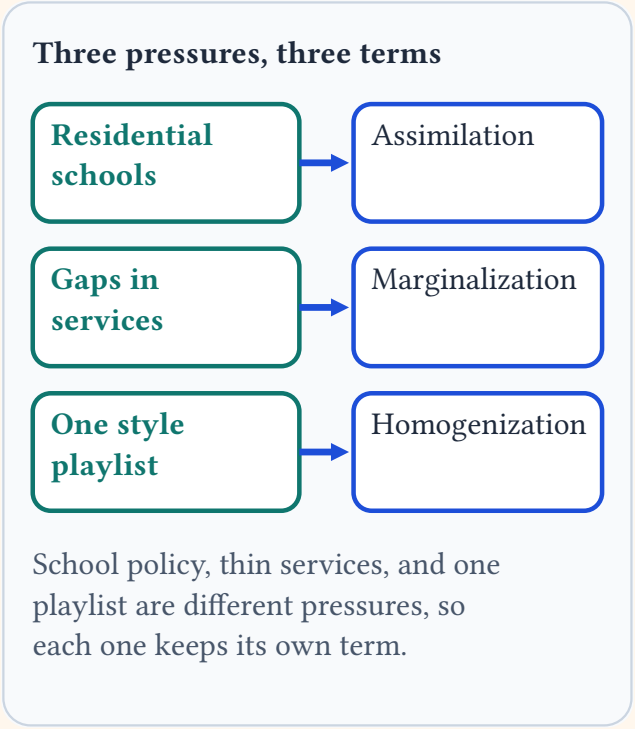
Terms and pressures

- Assimilation: the pressure is to replace a people's language and family life.
- Marginalization: the pressure pushes people away from decisions, land, income, or safety.
- Homogenization: the pressure makes public culture sound or look the same.



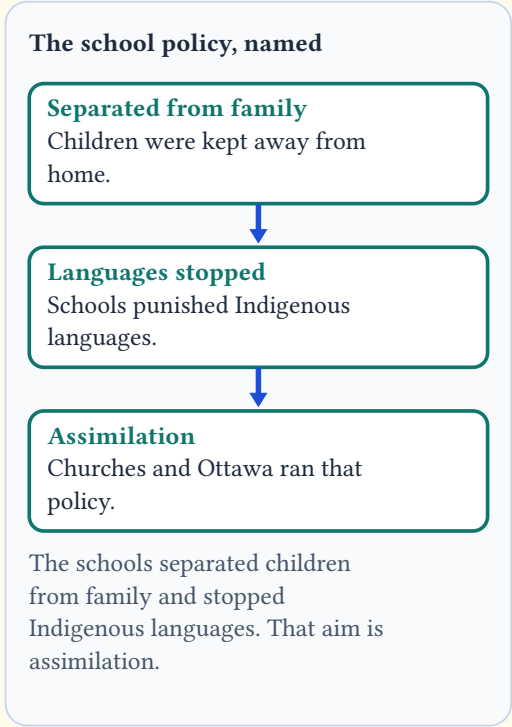
Challenges and responses

- Residential schools: assimilation. Children, families, and Indigenous languages were the target of a replacement policy.
- Later gaps in control and services: marginalization. Many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities still face edges in housing, health, and jurisdiction.
- One-style playlist: homogenization. A response is accommodation, such as playlists and funding led by Indigenous and Francophone artists.



Residential school policy

- Actor: the federal government and the churches that operated the schools.
- Pressure: separate children from families and suppress Indigenous languages.
- Term: assimilation, because the aim was replacement of language and home life.



Playlist with a different term

- A chart playlist uses one production style in many countries.
- Local-language songs are hard to find on the front page.
- Artists still release those songs on smaller rows and community stations.

Review

- A workplace schedules only the holidays of one tradition.
- A film studio dubs every story into one language and shelves the others.
- Students classify each pressure and name a response.

Image credits

Jon Kolbert, Mother Earth Circling - Healing from the residential school experience, CC BY-SA 3.0