RUNNING HEAD: INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Assignment 1 a

Name of Student

[Name of the Institution]

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***Indigenous experience and knowledge:***

Indigenousness is a constructed identity that has been shaped by contemporary colonialism. The people, communities, tribes or the nation that is considered to be indigenous belong to the land that they inhabit. They have the characteristic that contrasts the colonial societies that have spread as wide as to the European continent. These groups are characterized by different cultural and traditional values. The lifestyle of these people is impacted by environmental changes and the demonstrated diversity in a socio-economic organization, religion, and culture. These people think that being indigenous is a mindset and they considered themselves the true owner of the land (Mundy & Compton 1991).

The number of indigenous people is decreasing worldwide and the population was 300 million across approximately 70 countries. Aboriginal Australians have been on the continent for more than 6000 years before the continent was invaded by the British (Mundy & Compton 1991).

In the contemporary world the aboriginal experience various issue with marinating their identity, territory, and traditions. The most common issue faced by aboriginals is of maintaining their territorial boundaries. These people used have strong roots in the land before the invaders and they have a culturally and traditionally link with the landscapes. The lives of these people were mostly based on land and water and still some communities dependent on water and land to run their livelihood. The territorial rights of these people are addressed by the political activists of the locality (De La Cadena &Starn 2007).

However, the problem with the territorial link is contacted with the issue of sovereignty and the issue of territorial integrity have also a negative effect on the social changes in the community. The community of indigenous people has been invoked by the discriminatory policies of the country (De La Cadena & Starn 2007).

***Colonialism:***

It is a type of domination of a certain group of people over the territory or the overall behavior of a group of people (Horvath 1972). For me, it is a process of economic and cultural exploitation of a group of people by the dominant individuals. It refers to the domination of a group over the less privileged ones in society. There could be intergroup domination or the dominant factors could be external. Like the domination of English over the rest of the European people is an example of intergroup domination and the British invasion of Australia and South Asia is the example of external domination.

***The impact of Colonialism on the contemporary society of Australian:***

The economic disparities of the indigenous community in contemporary time is a result of injustice done to them in the colonial era. The dispassion of their lands, discrimination of basic rights and inhuman behavior of the colonial masters have marginalized these societies. Such actions have resulted in the poor health, poverty, and marginalization of the aboriginals in contemporary time (Dinnen & Braithwaite 2009).

***The role it has played in the shaping of my own identity:***

Colonialism has impacted our psychology has it has suppressed our indigenous

Cultural values. It has played a role to change my identity in a way that our local community used to live within a group and a kingship now these attributes are controlled by the state government and we no more share our specific traditional values.

***The biggest issue faced by Indigenous Australians***

The biggest challenge faced by the Indigenous people of Austria is that they lack a basic human right. They don’t have access to basic education and health facilities. Because the majority of the population die of cancer, heart disease or they are having other chronic health issues.52 percent of the aboriginal people are not employed and they live IN absolute poverty (Guenther & McRae-Williams 2014). The policymakers need to ensure that these people will have access to the basic needs of a healthy life.

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