



Arrival of the Brides at Quebec



## AR VIDEO SCRIPT

What did European settlement mean for all involved? This image, "Arrival of the brides at Quebec," and my re-interpreted image, along with the learning from this unit, can demonstrate and answer the driving question and the essential questions from each keystone. What changed about the European powers' worldview? What were the consequences of the European powers' change in worldview at the time? What are the consequences of colonization today?

As shown in the images, the main groups involved were the First Peoples and Europeans. However the effects varied between those still in Europe (not shown in the image) and those in North America, and between men and women. Represented in the image as well are the three main causes of European settlement: greed, ethnocentrism and religion.

Though greed isn't shown as much as the other two in my image, it was still an important factor for Europeans. In Europe, inflation occurred as more gold and silver came into Europe, money lost worth and the goods gained price, making the poor even poorer. In North America, Europeans there experienced the increased demand for raw materials in France and were not allowed to sell those materials to anyone but the the home country, nor manufacture them themselves. However, colonies had royal attention, therefore giving them a comfortable life. North Americans also had the opportunity to gain free land. As well as greed for more physical items, Europeans observed that the First Peoples were happier than they were, and the colonizers were envious of this. With the increase of greed came an increase in resources and production, and therefore more people. The strong economy of today is a long-term result of these.

Secondly, ethnocentrism played a big role in the colonization of North America. On my re-interpreted image, I added some Indigenous people, (traced from another artwork by C.W. Jefferys), however I made them very small, to symbolize how the Europeans viewed the Indigenous as inferior and "savages" and in general that the Europeans considered themselves to be the superior or correct culture. Europeans had the belief that

everything was theirs, including the land and even the Indigenous peoples. Because of this, the First Peoples were mistreated in inhumane ways, as well as, less commonly known, given the option by the Europeans to be slaves or to move on. The enslaved were later replaced by Africans after the Indigenous population started to die off. Nowadays, consequences from this treatment still exist, such as loss of Indigenous culture, (generational) trauma and Indigenous communities confined to small reserves. In recent years, Canadians have begun to acknowledge the wrongs of the past treatment of the First Peoples and there are efforts being made for Truth & Reconciliation. Also, not just in Canada or North America, around the whole world there is a lot of racism.

Finally, religion, which is represented by the cross in the image on the right. Christians believed that they followed the only "right" religion and that it was their duty to convert others. The colonies were part of the Europeans effort to spread Christianity and they also built churches. Long-term effects of this exist today: though in Canada we have religious freedom and diversity, there is still a strong Christian influence.

From a combination of all these, were les *filles du roi*, shown in both images, with the re-interpreted image intended to represent these young women's perspective of their arrival in Quebec. Those in charge of the colonies arranged with the king of France to send more women over, because there was a lack of women in North America at that time, other than a few nuns. These women had to be approved by the Catholic Church. There were about 800, most who were orphans, young widows, or from distressed families, although there were a few daughters from wealthier families. Coming to Europe as *filles du roi* gave them an opportunity to marry and more freedom than in Europe, but it was a hard life.

In conclusion, the colonization of North America, has led to both positive and negative consequences for our society today.

