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Samir Shaheen-Hussain, *Fighting for a Hand to Hold: Confronting Medical Colonialism against Indigenous Children in Canada*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2020. 360 pages. ISBN 978-0-2280-0360-1. \$29.95 hardcover.

Fighting for a Hand to Hold: Confronting Medical Colonialism against Indigenous Children in Canada by Samir Shaheen-Hussain, a pediatric emergency physician at the Montreal Children's Hospital, is a part of McGill-Queen's Indigenous and Northern Studies series. This book explores how the Canadian medical system, in unison with the Canadian government, played an active role in the attempted genocide of First Nations and Inuit children.

Chapter one begins by explaining how the medical system, with the support of the Quebec government, separated sick and injured Indigenous children from their parents when they were medically transported from northern communities to southern hospitals. This practice caused additional trauma to the parent and child and it made it more difficult for healthcare professionals to treat the children. In response, physicians created the #aHandtoHold campaign, which Shaheen-Hussain uses as a case study throughout the book. This campaign promoted ending the practice of refusing parents the right to accompany their children on medevac flights. His discussion of the campaign illustrates the difficulties one can encounter when trying to address the injustices Indigenous peoples experience.

A variety of topics are covered to show how the medical field contributed to the abuse and attempted genocide against Indigenous peoples. Topics include the ongoing systemic racism within the healthcare system and the institutions responsible for training physicians; the close relationship between Residential Schools and Indian hospitals and tuberculosis sanatoriums; the use of Indigenous peoples as subjects for

medical experiments; the forced sterilization of Indigenous women; and the removal of Indigenous children from their families. The book concludes by examining how the medical system must be decolonized. The medical system must include Indigenous peoples in the process and no longer use top down approaches. Canadians need to stand up and support Indigenous peoples and decolonization.

There are a couple of things a reader should be aware of when reading this book. First, Shaheen-Hussain clearly states that when he uses the term *Indigenous* he is referring to First Nations, Inuit and Metis. However, little to nothing is mentioned about the Metis. This is problematic because it appears as though their experience with colonialism and the medical system is identical to that of First Nations and the Inuit, which it definitely was not. Second, this book discusses some important historical events, such as Residential Schools and the Sixties Scoop but it fails to provide an adequate contextualization of their history. It would be impossible to provide detailed background for all the various topics he opted to mention, but the lack could make a difficult read for those with little to no knowledge of Indigenous issues and make it hard for the reader to fully understand the total effects of these events.

Nonetheless this book is a valuable read for those interested in understanding how the medical system was, and is, part of the colonial process to eliminate and assimilate Indigenous people and for those wanting to understand the relationship First Nations and Inuit have, and continue to have, with the Canadian healthcare system. This book would be a beneficial read for those in the healthcare industry, particularly medical and nursing students, upper level Indigenous Studies and anthropology students, government officials, and anyone who is interested in the relationship between Indigenous peoples and the Canadian healthcare system.

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Nicholas Shrubsole, *What Has No Place, Remains: The Challenges for Indigenous Religious Freedom in Canada Today*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2019. 254 pages. ISBN 9781487523442. \$28.95 paperback.

In 2008, Prime Minister Stephen Harper stated in the government's official apology to those impacted by the residential school system that, "this policy of assimilation was wrong, has caused great harm, and has