

“WHITEYS LIKE US”

SYNOPSIS

What goes on in a bland high school class room at Manly Community College for two hours on Wednesday nights represents a fascinating microcosm of how white Australians are dealing (or not dealing) with the country's indigenous past and present.

Four times a year a group of between ten and fifteen white strangers come together to participate in an eight week reconciliation study circle. These circles were initiated by the Reconciliation Council in 1991 with the "aim of improving relations between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians".

The documentary focuses on one study circle through its eight sessions and examines the impact the process has on the participants' lives.

The machinations of this group and the individual responses to it provide a glimpse of how Australians have reached this difficult, critical, and complex nexus of indigenous and non-indigenous relations and how 'ordinary' non-indigenous Australians grapple personally with the issues this evokes.