

[RHD Dreamtime Story - YouTube](#)

ENGAGING THROUGH OUR WAYS! WHICH CAN BE YOUR WAYS TOO!

It's not “black OR white” – It's
just right!

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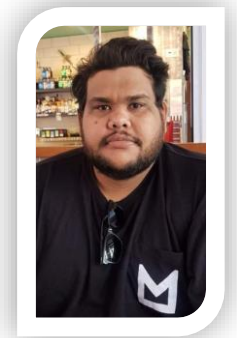
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Acknowledgements

Respect Your Elders



Before we start you must realise...

Our people have done this for a long time!



This is just our ways!


Aren't we tired of doing the same old thing with not much to show for it!





We do way too
much
communication,
but not enough
engagement

What's the difference between communication and engagement?

- Communication is and focuses on:
 - Differentiated by proximity e.g. from a distance
 - What to say; and
 - Who to say it to
 - Engagement is more about:
 - Makes contact, e.g. from close proximity (physically and/or spiritually);
 - Who to listen to; and
 - What feedback you seek to elicit
- 

ENGAGEMENT is not communication... what is it?

Being formal e.g. following protocols

Involved in community

Being directed

Connecting – close proximity both
physically & spiritually

Being attentive

Acting in good faith

Active



How do we Engage the First
Nation people?

- Many ways to do this!
- This is my way after many teachings from my Kalkadoon, Waanyi & Ganggalidda peoples!

BUT WHAT IS FIRST NATION CULTURE/WAY?

It is not just a culture, it
is a religion!

It is not just a way, it is
the way!

It is not just being
spiritual, it is living with
the spirits!

It is not just respecting
the past, it is never
forgetting the past!

It is not just about living
on this land, it is about
living with the land!

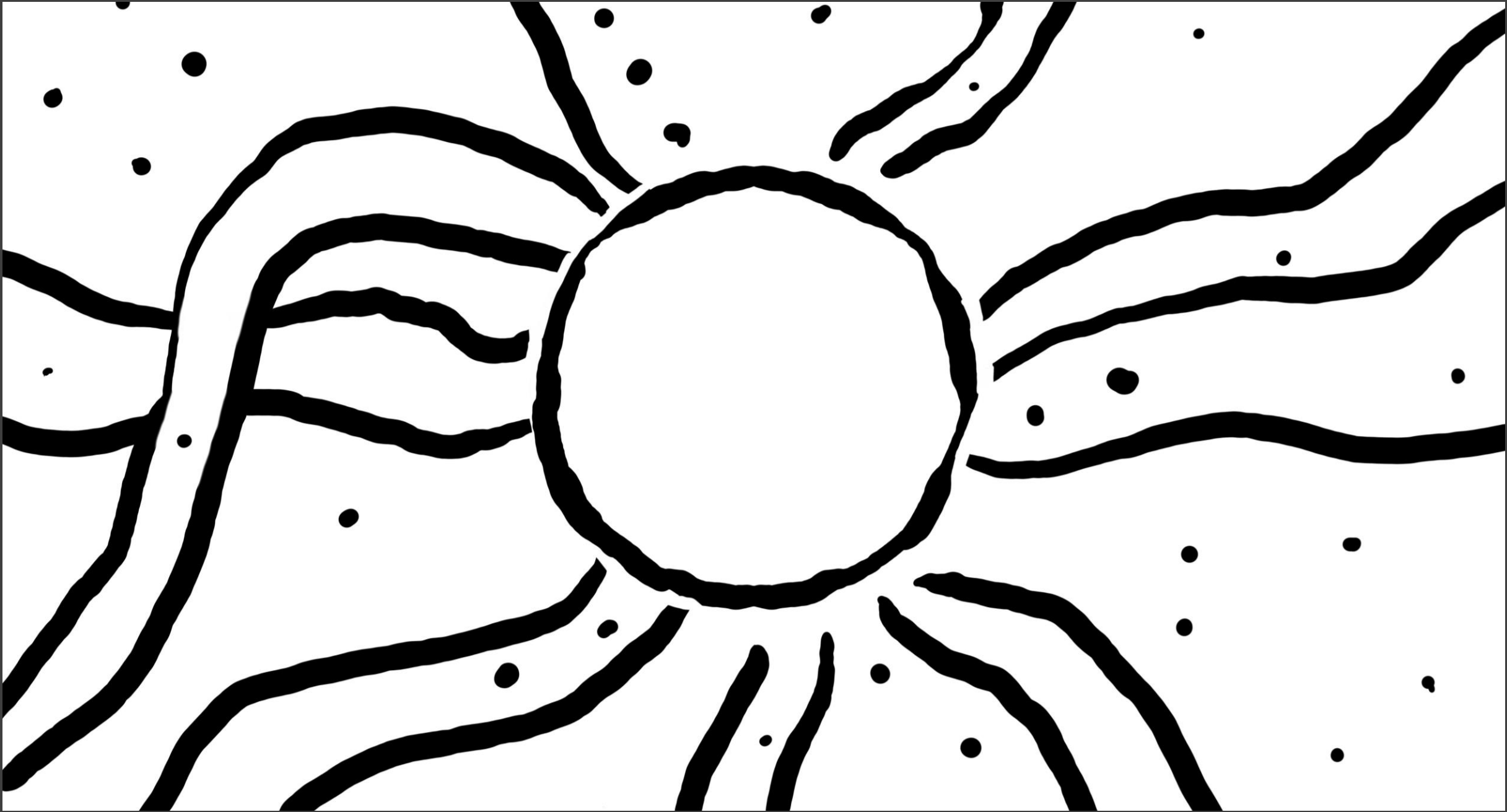
It is not just about trying
not to die, it is about
dying proper ways!

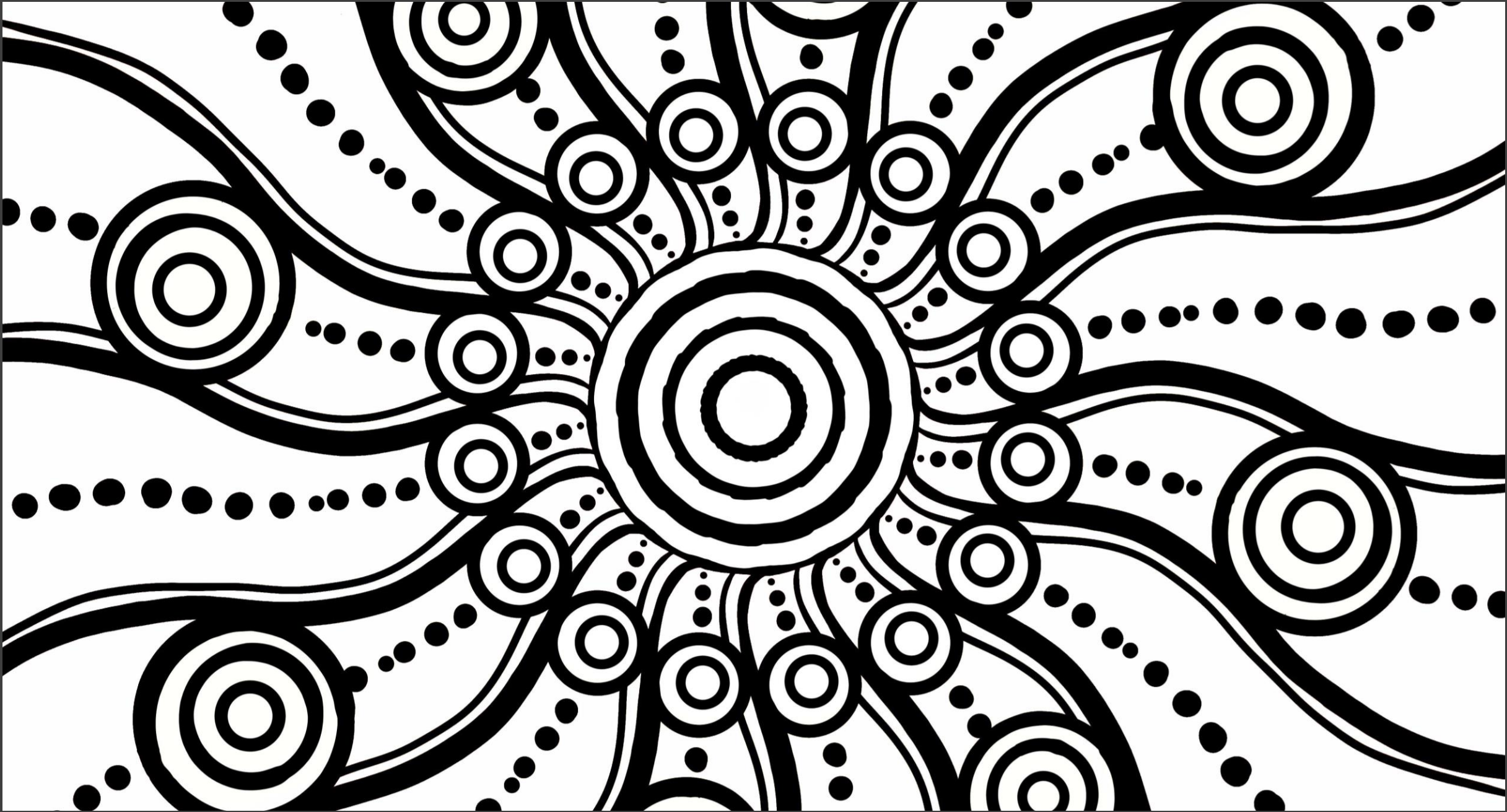
It is not just about us, it
is about you!

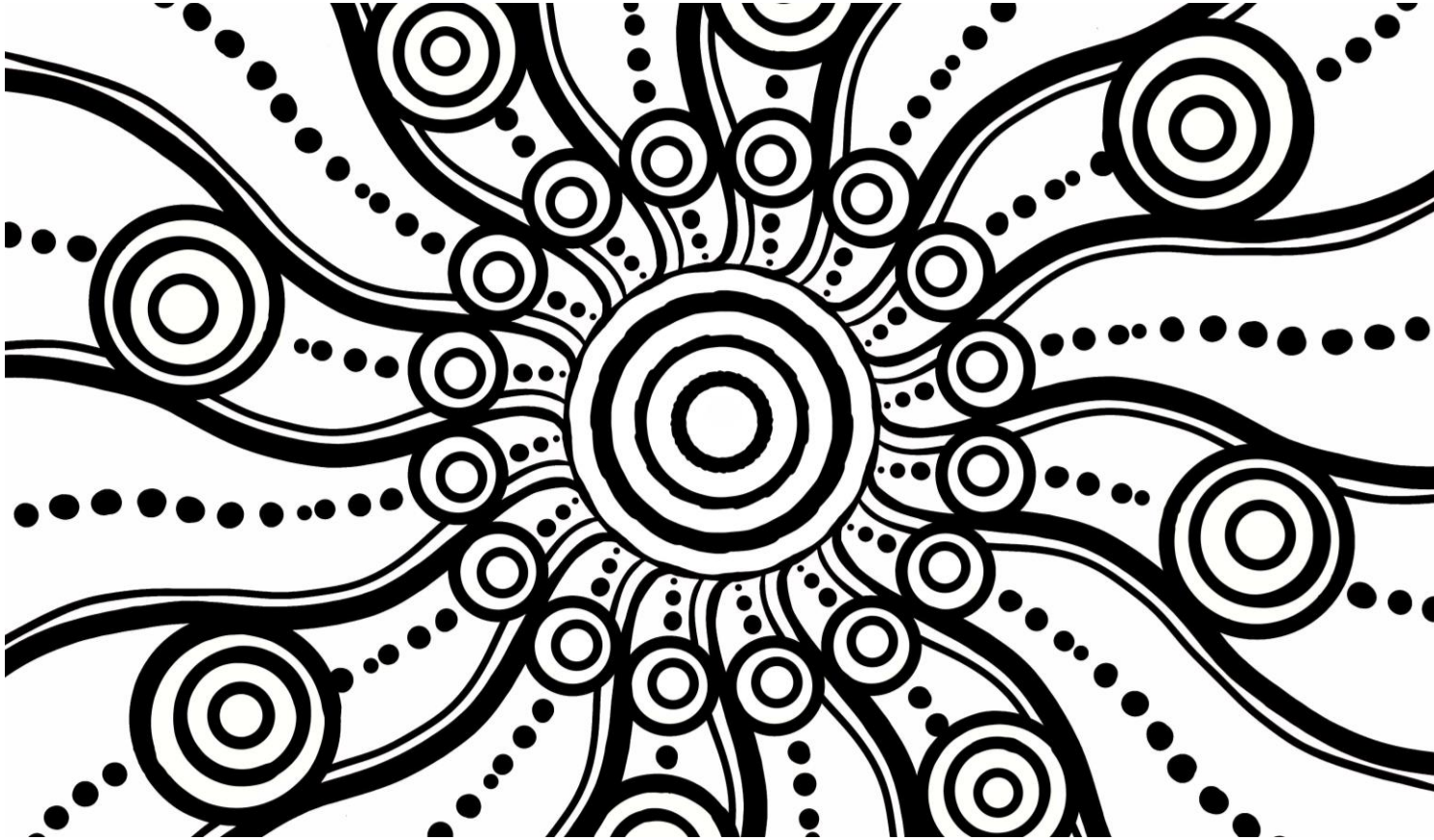
It is not just about doing
the right things, it is
about doing things right!

It is not about dreams, it
is about the dreaming
and dreamtime!

It is not just about
knowing the historical
stories, it is about being
one with our dreamtime
stories!







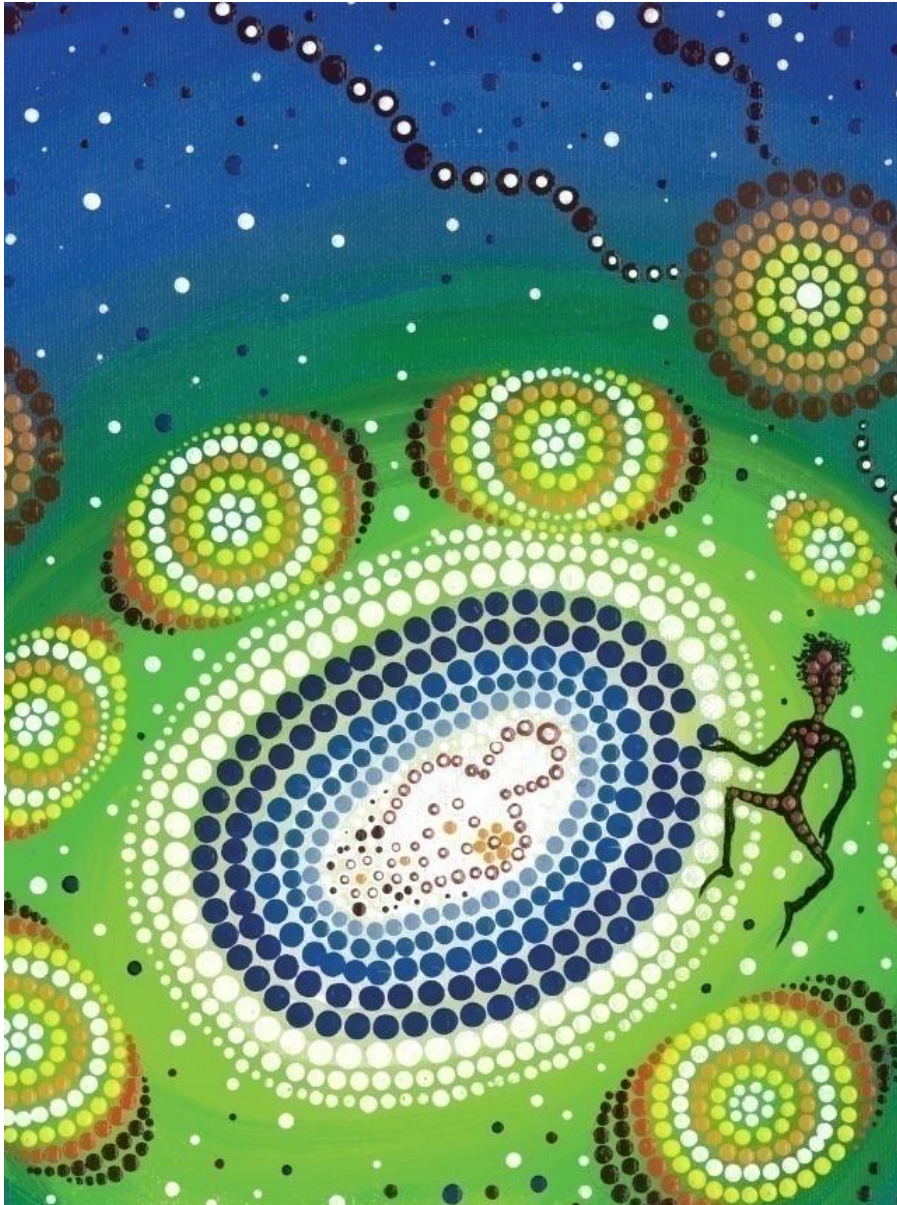
DREAMTIME STORIES

- Are very complex – will depend on the Nation/Tribal/Clan group you are working with!
- Connects the Dreaming to the Dreamtime.
- Brings structure, transparency and accountability.
- Helps with 'proper informed consent'.
 - Listening vs understanding with assimilation vs understanding with connection.
- Enriching everyone and bring us together as a FAMILY!



STORIES ARE GREAT!

Dreamtime Stories is a way we learn!
 Dreamtime Stories are a form of protocol!



DREAMTIME STORY

Once upon a time, there was a 15 year old boy called Asot. Asot had a brother called MacCallum, who couldn't keep his ass-off (Aschoff) caterpillars, yes he loved to sit on caterpillars and he had a mouth like a fish. Unfortunately MacCallum drowned when he was 3 years and 1 month old in a waterhole; Asot was 5 years old at the time when MacCallum drowned. Asot loved MacCallum with all his heart and some say that MacCallum was Asot's heart, as when MacCallum died so did a bit of Asot. Asot's uncle also lived here and his name was Jonesey, he was a Medicine man; he was 60 years old. Now there is usually a lot of water in these areas, however they were going through a dry period. So all the waterholes were empty; however there was one waterhole that always had water in it. This waterhole was called STREPTOCOCCUS, and yes this is where Asot's brother MacCallum drowned.

Now Jonesey always told Asot not to drink from this waterhole, as MacCallum's spirit can make a man very sick. But the spirit won't make every man sick, mainly the people who knew MacCallum very well!

Although Asot knew this there was a point about 2 or 3 weeks ago that he was so thirsty that he drank from Streptococcus. Asot started to worry as he remembered that his throat was sore after his drink, and that his joints were also now very sore. Asot didn't tell Jonesey and quickly ran off to rest.





- No matter what you think, feel and do,
- you are mine and I will be with you.
- No matter how you move, hear and see,
- you are mine and will be MY CALM BABY.
- So let's discover ourselves on this journey,
- together as a family.





- Dreamtime Story & Consent



- “This journey is for you all, to discover your gifts so you don’t fall.
- Don’t worry as I will be with you, so please relax, learn and ask questions if you feel blue.
- Every tier you get through a rain drop will come from the sky, this signals all the angels being happy and wanting to fly.
- So let's go and find some answers we would like, and we can give everything a go with all of our might”.



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- Developmental Interview & Photos



- A snake with great reflexes.



A goanna running up
and down the river.

- A koala drawing a picture while looking at the tree.





Then they looked up the tree and
saw:

An owl with
big eyes.



A bird
listening to
the sounds
of the winds
and water.





- A Kookaburra yapping away.

Then they looked
again further along
the river and saw:

+
○ ●



A wombat
thinking very
deeply.





A crocodile in the river looking at everyone's behavior.



- A Kangaroo jumping up and down making the ground shake.



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- Primary Health Care Developmental Assessment

[to the hill - YouTube](#)

[meet help start trip - YouTube](#)

[2nd US Dolphin - YouTube](#)



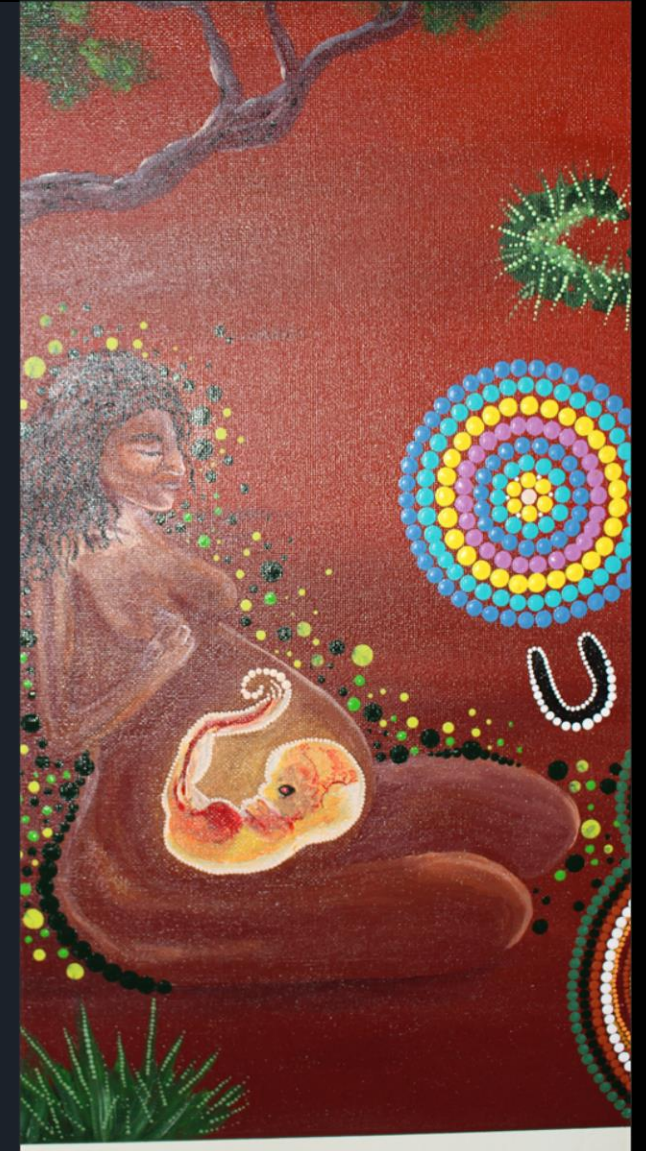
But Can You Do this?

- Have you read any story books?
- Have you written any assignments?
- Have you been told any stories?
- Do you engage the communities?
- Do you want to put the First Nation ways first?
- Do you want to make a difference?
- Do you want to follow protocol?
- Do your want to save us?
- Do you want to learn?
- Are you willing to put aside your ways?

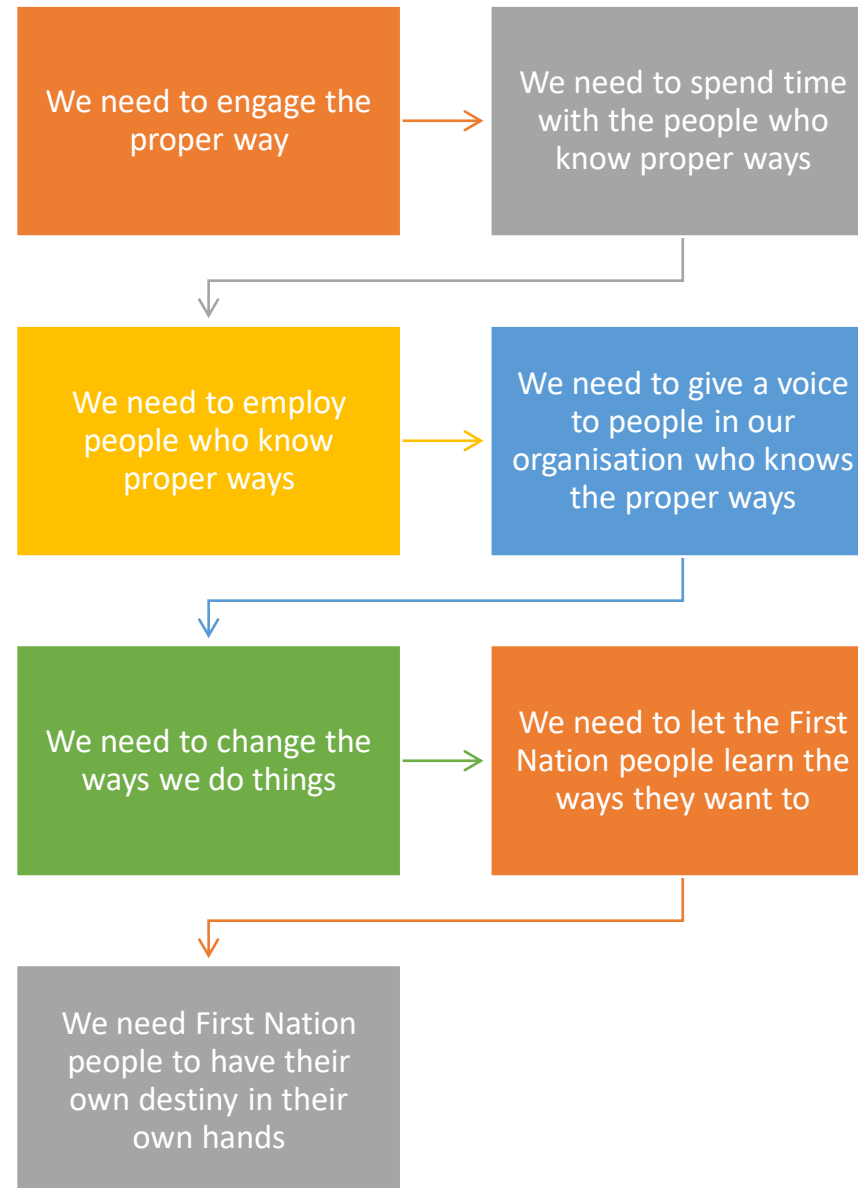


IN SUMMARY how I engaged

- Dreamtime stories are part of the religious/cultural framework!
 - It connects to the Dreamtime and Dreaming!
- It one of the essential factors that holds a community together!
 - It's how we learn!
- It could be a way how we can be connected to our health care system!
- But... It's a way how the health care systems can be connected to us!
- Therefore, truly having a transparent, connected and accountable system for 'our' people.
- This will ultimately lead to us gaining community trust, better engagement and 'proper' consent.
 - AND ADOPTING THE PEOPLE INTO OUR FAMILY!



You might be
thinking... how
do we do this?



You should try not to...



Continue the way we are going in a lot of settings, especially with engagement and health literacy



Should not aim to treat everyone the way we want to be treated



We should stop trying just to assimilate the First Nation people, but we should try and connect with the First Nation ways

We
could
lose our
history

- If we don't change something and engage 'proper ways' we will:
 - Never know how to truly help
 - Never know the community
 - Never give the people their chance to save themselves
 - Never give ourselves an opportunity to learn and connect to the First Nation peoples

