Notice of the Final Oral Examination  
for the Degree of Master of Arts  

of  

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BEd (University of Victoria, 2012)  
BA (University of Victoria, 2009)  

“Our World to Come: Decolonial Love as a Praxis of Dignity, Justice, and Resurgence”  

School of Child and Youth Care  

Monday, July 5, 2021  
1:00pm (PDT)  
Remote Defence  

Supervisory Committee:  
Dr. Sandrina de Finney, School of Child and Youth Care, University of Victoria (Supervisor)  
Dr. Mandeep Kaur Mucina, School of Child and Youth Care, UVic (Member)  

External Examiner:  
Dr. Sarah Hunt, Department of Environmental Studies, University of Victoria  

Chair of Oral Examination:  
Dr. Annalee Lepp, Department of Gender Studies, UVic  

Dr. Stephen V. Evans, Acting Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

In this thesis I explore the theoretical, ethical, and practice-based implications of doing research with Indigenous, racialized, and LGBT2SQ+ youth and young people. This research traces participant conceptualizations of decolonial love, through arts- and land-based methods, within the context of ongoing settler colonialism. Through an Indigenous-led and participatory research project called Sisters Rising, I engaged in intimate conversations and facilitated research workshops with young Black, Indigenous, and people of colour (BIPOC) who reflected on their understandings of decolonial love as related to their own experiences, knowledges, and teachings. Their conceptualizations of decolonial love as inextricably tied to land, sovereignty, and resurgence disrupt settler colonial narratives that attempt to violently displace and disenfranchise BIPOC communities and undermine Indigenous intellectual knowledges as inferior or simplistic, particularly in Euro-Western academia. Through this research BIPOC young people’s understandings of decolonial love guide my praxis and ongoing learning as a frontline practitioner who is committed to cultivating and nurturing a politicized ethic of decolonial love in my child-, youth-, and family-centered praxis.

Keywords: BIPOC, decolonial love, praxis, Sisters Rising, colonialism