



This interview is offered as supplemental material to the publication, *Listen to the Children: Justice Worship Resource with Reference to Epiphany Year A* (2019).

www.kairoscanada.org/epiphany

Lennox Cote Interview Transcript

Interviewer's Name: Ginger Cote

Interview Date: September 2019

Child's Name: Lennox Cote

Child's Age: 8

Child's Relationship to KAIROS: Mother is on staff at KAIROS with the KAIROS Blanket Exercise team

[From audio recording]

Ok, so Take 2, what is your name?

Lennox Cody. I am 8 years old, almost 9

What is your relationship to KAIROS?

It helps Indigenous people in, like, they have a thing called a Blanket Exercise and it literally, so people bring a bunch of blankets and ...

Can you introduce yourself? Tell me a little bit about yourself?

I am Lennox Cody. I live in Ottawa, Canada, planet earth, universe, Milky Way. Well that's where I live.

Where do you go to school? What do you like to do?

My favourite hobby is playing soccer, doing sports.

OK.

I go to school at [Our] Lady [of] Mount Carmel School. It's a great school. You should go there when you grow up, if you are a kid.

Ok. Ok. What does "peace" mean to you? So, peace, what do you think of when you think of that word?

Ah, two people that love each other, no um, huh. Let me think about this question.

Peace.

Peace is when two nations or peoples are nice to each other and don't go like GAA! War!

Ok. I have another question. What does freedom mean to you?

Freedom means when you are free, like free of something, like free of school, free of war, free of something and that's what freedom means...like away from something and don't have to do that anymore. What's next?

OK. What does it mean to be safe? What does it mean when you feel safe?

Like...like when you are in a safe position. There's many ways to stay safe. I know if you are like safe, if you are hiding or safe or you feel safe because people are guarding you or helping you.

Like so you are not in danger.

Yah.

What does that feel like to you?

It feels great.

What makes you feel like you are safe?

Ah...my Mom. She helps me a lot and I'm safe.

Okay, but in terms of like you said earlier about war or peace between nations...so you living in the country and going to Mount Carmel. How does that make you feel safe?

This country doesn't make me feel safe.

It doesn't? Why?

Because there's a bunch of stuff going on in North America. And Donald Trump's in North America, so I don't want to be in this continent. I want to move.

Well, Lennox, okay, um...What do you as a child need for the above to happen, so for you to feel peace, for you to feel freedom and for you to feel safe. What do you need?

You know once I watched this video before at school at it was about "to make a difference". You know how you can just make a difference about one thing and then it goes on to another person and another person and it keeps going. That how you feel safe, because you do one thing and then it keeps going and going and you just like... know what I mean?

So that's what you think needs to be done for you to feel safe

Yah, man.

For someone to do something and then someone else do something...so like pass it forward.

Yah

So everybody has a piece/peace?

Yah, man.

That's really good.

And those people don't have war, so they don't hurt other people, like me. You know? So I want them to feel peace too.

That's good. OK. You know what kind of work we at KAIROS do?

Nope. I don't work. I don't have a job. I go to school.

OK. So what do you think KAIROS does. I told you it helps people.

It helps, ah, mostly Indigenous people and cause that, like a million, million years ago there was a world war against Indigenous and ah Europeans and they all fought and I have no idea who won and ah...a lot of Indigenous people died and then the KAIROS community helped bring them back up and rise.

Well they didn't, but that's what they try to do, I think.

So what else?

So, if they were successful then there wouldn't be any issues today, right? But we have to try right?

Well, they're still trying.

Exactly. Yah, you're right. They don't give up. Ok.

When is this interview going to be over?

Hold on. ...Why is this work important for people to try to help people?

Or like teaching people?

If no one does this the whole Indigenous race might be extinct.

OK. So to keep our rights basically?

Yah.

Children are supposed to have the freedom to play and to choose their own friends and to express themselves. Does that always happen?

No.

Why?

Because there's still a bit, like, war going on and stuff. Some, like, people are still mad at us. Same with the raping's in Alberta same with the brown people, you know. Like I'm half brown, half native. (I'm trying to talk [interrupted by younger sibling].)

Come closer and say that again.

Trying to express himself. This always happens. So why does it always happen when you can't express yourself?

Um, because, I know my sister, she doesn't like socializing. I'm good with socializing, so that's why it's easy to express myself, when you can socialize it's easier you know?

So when you can socialize, that's when it's easier. OK.

Yes, the native people and the Europeans have to be rufious, rufious.

What is rufious? What does that mean?

It means when someone treats you like, they have to be nice to each other and treat each other...if they be nice to each other and the other person has to be nice back you know. No more war and fighting. That's what rufious means.

Ok. You just learned me something here, my boy.

What's your message to all the children in Canada about all the stuff we just talked about, about feeling safe and freedom and peace, and expressing yourself? IF you had a message to say to all the children in Canada what would you say?

I would say that, don't trust any people that try to say, "Come with me. I'm going to help you. 9:11 I'm going to give you cookies." Don't trust those people.

But in terms of like war and stuff and Donald Trump and how he makes you feel.

Those things that I just said.

So, don't go with bad people?

Yup.

So, you go with good people. What if you could tell everyone in the world, all the grown ups and you wanted to tell them something about how to have peace and make everybody feel safe. What do you think is the answer?

Maybe you should listen...You know, maybe you should listen to kids more. Because grown ups, they created war, fighting, and kids, what did they do? ...10:06 I can name all these really good kids that will help the world. They helped it! And what do the grown ups do? Name me one thing that grown ups do that helped the world.

They make kids.

That's the only thing. But not all grown ups can make kids.

That's true. That's the last question. Are you going to say, "Bye"

Peace out.