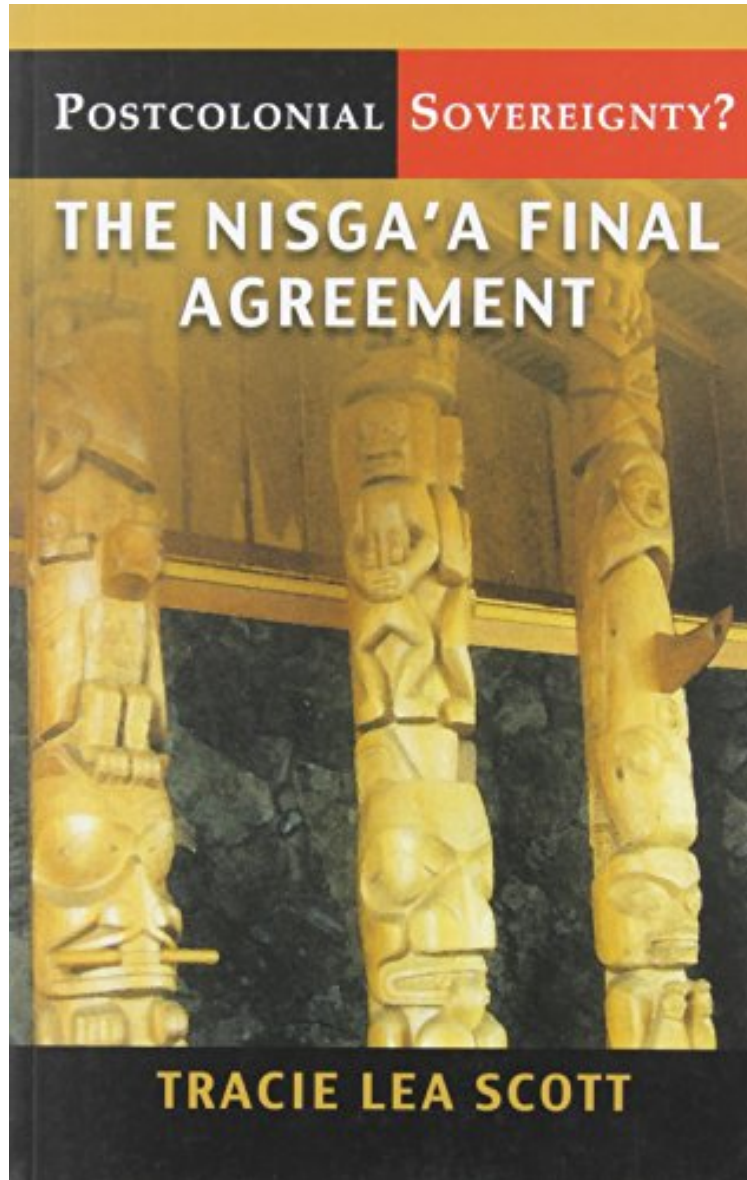


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Postcolonial Sovereignty?: The Nisga'a final Agreement

Tracie Lea Scott

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Tracie Lea Scott : Postcolonial Sovereignty?: The Nisga'a final Agreement before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Postcolonial Sovereignty?: The Nisga'a final Agreement:

In 1999 the Nisgaa First Nation in northwestern British Columbia signed a landmark agreement which not only settled

their land claim but outlined significant powers that could be exercised by its government. The Nisgaa Final Agreement granted powers over land, resources, education, and cultural policy to the Nisgaa government, a major departure from previous land claims agreements. However, it was not without opposition and Scott also outlines the opposition, including two court challenges, mounted against the agreement. This book concisely examines the major terms of the agreement then deeply analyzes the impact the agreement has on federal/provincial/First Nations relations.

My interest in the Nisgaa Final Agreement arose from the trenchant criticisms of the agreement by both Aboriginal rights proponents and conservative factions in the Canadian community. Why did this agreement incite such polarized opposition? I undertook a detailed examination of the agreement and its effect on the Nisgaa Nation. Through community research and discussions with the federal negotiators it became clear that the agreement represented a radical hybridization of western political and legal systems. Obviously, liberal theory did not account for this revision of First Nation and Canadian sovereignty. As such I explored postcolonial theory as an avenue to explain how the treaty was operating and the effects it was having on the Nisgaa Nation and the Canadian political community. Tracie Lea Scott In 1999 the Nisgaa First Nation in Northwestern British Columbia signed a landmark agreement which not only settled their land claim but outlined significant powers that could be exercised by its government. This book analyzes the impact the agreement has on federal/provincial/First Nations relations, but also in a concise manner examines the major terms of the agreement. The author summarizes the settlement and, more importantly, the powers over land, resources, education, and cultural policy granted to the Nisgaa government. Scott notes that the agreement marks a major departure from previous land claims agreements and outlines the opposition, including two court challenges, mounted against the agreement. About the Author Tracie Lea Scott is a member of the Alberta bar and holds a doctorate in law from Birkbeck College, University of London. This book is based in part on research she undertook for her doctoral thesis.