

Research Paper Reflection

I was originally interested in this topic because I had heard about the issue and had a vague understanding from a feature film named *Wind River*. I had the desire to learn more and go deeper, which is why I chose the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, and the issues that surround it, for my research paper. My first step beginning the research process was watching a couple documentaries, *Our Sisters in Spirit* and *Finding Dawn*, to expand my understanding.

After watching the documentaries, I moved on to written sources with more personal stories and statistics. At this point, the Library's database was very helpful. In the CLIC database I mainly looked for online peer reviewed sources and newspaper articles. I ended up using a lot of sources available on Gale Academic, EBSCOHost, etc. to which the Bethel Library CLIC database had given me access. When starting my search I used "MMIW" as the keyword, this is a common acronym for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women issue and by putting it in quotations I ensured that only sources with the word listed as a whole would appear. This is a little hack that I learned when the librarian came and talked to my class about the research project/process. I never used the ILLiad system to borrow a physical source from another school.

I did not seek help from a Research Assistant, however the opportunity was always there and looking back I'm sure it would've aided my research process.

When looking for sources I mainly used peer reviewed sources because I knew that they were trustworthy. Additionally, I used some newspaper articles and documentaries to understand the more personal side of this issue and what the people influenced by it truly go through.

During the research process I learned how and where to look for good sources. This is key as I go forward into future research projects and into topic I want to learn more about.