

Understanding the Needs of Urban Inuit Women

Fact Sheet: BEING AN INUK WOMAN LIVING IN THE SOUTH IS DIFFERENT FROM LIVING IN THE NORTH



Family Responsibilities

The reality of parenting is that, often times, most of the work falls on women. This means Inuit women are more likely to be the first or primary caregivers to children. They are also more likely to move to large southern cities than Inuit men so they can find better opportunities for their children.



Gendered Roles

Because of the traditional roles given to men and women, where women do most of the work at home, women find themselves alone and not connected with their communities, social networks, and extended families. This is also true for Inuit women who move to large cities. Not only do they have to work and take care of children, they also don't have a community or social network available so they feel very alone and disconnected.

GENDER MATTERS



Marginalization

The population of Inuit women is getting bigger in cities across Canada. Because of racial profiling and sexism, Inuit women are more likely to become criminalized, picked out or targeted by gangs, or being sexually abused/assaulted.

In Conclusion

Inuit women experience many challenges (being alone, being targeted because of their race and sexism) all at the same time.

Moving to a large city, because of the new environment and surroundings, makes Inuit women more vulnerable to gangs, assault, abuse, etc.

There is a need for mentoring and family support services and programs for Inuit women.



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