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# Research is ceremony: Indigenous research methods

[Shawn Wilson](#), *Southern Cross University*

## Document Type

Book

## Publication details

Wilson, S 2008, *Research is ceremony: Indigenous research methods*, Black Point Publishing, Black Point, NS, Canada. ISBN: 9781552662816

## Peer Reviewed

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## Abstract

Indigenous researchers are knowledge seekers who work in ways of being, knowing and doing in a modern and constantly changing world. This book describes a research paradigm shared by Indigenous researchers in Australia, and demonstrates how this paradigm can be used to build relationships. Relationships don't just shape Indigenous reality, they are shaped by it. As researchers develop relationships with ideas in order to do research, they are also developing relationships with the community. The ceremony that is Indigenous research is a way of maintaining accountability to these relationships. For researchers to be accountable to all our relations, we must make careful choices.



**Dr Stuart Barlo**



**Dr Shawn Wilson**



**Dr Deborah  
Donoghue**

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topics, methods of data collection, forms of analysis and present information. I'm an Opaskwayak Cree from northern living in the Northern Rivers area of New South Wales, Australia, three boys, a researcher, son, uncle, teacher, world traveler, knowledge seeker. As an educated Indigenous, I've spent much time in the Indigenous and academic worlds. Most of my time these days is spent with other Indigenous knowledge seekers (and my kids) how to balance this act while still keeping both feet on the ground.



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