THE ANXIOUS PROXIMITIES OF SETTLER (POST)COLONIAL RELATIONS
In Australia, land settled by Europeans was designated *Terra Nullius* (empty land, nobody’s land) by the Europeans.

This “had the discursive effect of ‘evacuating’ the country of its indigenous inhabitants” (1211)
The High Court of Australia ruled that the principle of terra nullius was untenable because the land at the time of settlement was neither ‘empty’ nor ‘nobody’s’ land. This had the effect of establishing a form of ‘Native Title’ to the land. It also established two important principles:

1. Aborigines are given historical precedence
2. European settlers are granted legal precedence (1212)
The Australian High Court ruled that “Pastoral Leases might not fully extinguish Native Title since they do not confer absolute title” (1211).

1846 legislation granted land rights to settlers through squatting or occupation and use of the land (British law), most of which was used as cattle or sheep grazing stations.

This law simultaneously maintained the rights of indigenous people to use the land for their traditional subsistence practices, including hunting and foraging.

Land title is thus shared, with coexistence in close proximity.

THE ‘WIK’ CASE (1996)
Postcolonial anxieties arise as both settlers and Aboriginals experience a sense “‘of being in place and “out of place” simultaneously’” (1214).

In other words, they inhabit the same space geographically but also seem to inhabit very different worlds.

Lawson argues that this results in or is the result of “the anxious tropes of proximity” (1214).
DOUBLE INSCRIPTIONS

1. Authority and authenticity
2. Desire and disavowal
3. Displacement and replacement
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AFFECTIVE CONFLICT CAUSES ANXIETY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desire and identification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Othering’ as cultural boundary marking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ZEUGMA AS PROXIMITY

- Or stain her honour, or her new brocade (Alexander Pope)
- Dost sometimes counsel take, and sometimes tea (Pope)
- She looked at the object with suspicion and a magnifying glass (Charles Dickens)
- We must, indeed, all hang together or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately (Benjamin Franklin)
- He milked the situation and the cow (Words & Stuff)
OTHER TROPES AND IDEOLOGEMES

- The dying race (1220)
- Incorporation (1220)
- Asymptosis (1221)
How do these three tropes figure in the contemporary *Idle No More* movement?

- The dying race
- Incorporation
- Asymptosis
 Reflections on Kincaid text

 In-class writing assignment