

# **Cowboys and Indians - The Killing of J.J. Harper**

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1. What is the place and date shown at the beginning of the film ?

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2. Were both suspects captured when Constable Cross approached J.J. Harper ?

Yes or No

3. Constable \_\_\_\_\_ Cross was responsible for killing J.J. Harper.

4. Did the investigating officers treat the scene of the murder with respect ?

Yes or No

5. What is J.J. Harper's real name ?

a. John Jake Harper

b. John Jones Harper

c. John Joseph Harper

d. Jacob John Harper

6. J.J. Harper's brother, Harry Wood asked the officers involved in the investigation for a personal item that was in his wallet, what was it ? \_\_\_\_\_

7. According to Inspector Ken Dowson how many boots ran through the blood stain that contaminated the crime scene ? \_\_\_\_\_

8. The gun used to shoot J.J. Harper was not dusted for prints ? True or False

9. Which Tribal Council did Mr. Harper work for as the executive director ?

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10. Which First Nations politician is brought into the film as a character to get support for Harry Wood seeking justice for his brother's death ?

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11. Who ends up at the psychiatric ward ? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Give another example of what investigators failed to do in order for a proper investigation into the murder of J.J. Harper

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13. What inquiry resulted after the death of J.J. Harper ?

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14. Name one reason that is stated that the Manitoba Justice system has failed Aboriginal people ? \_\_\_\_\_

15. At the end of the film who says, "Don't worry about me big brother" ?

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**Topic of discussion:**

1. Do police have a right to stop and ask you for your i.d. ?

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**Bonus Question: (1 mark)** What street is J.J. Harper walking down when he is gunned down and killed by Constable Cross ?

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## **Facts at the end of the film :**

- Robert Cross was demoted to Constable 4<sup>th</sup> class and eventually left the police force. He died of acute alcoholism in 1999.
- Police Chief Herb Stephen resigned shortly after the AJI report was released. He is president of a security training company.
- Harry Wood returned to his home reserve. He died from complications of diabetes in 2000.
- J.J. Harper's family sued Robert Cross, Herb Stephen and the City of Winnipeg, and won.
- (At the time when this film was made in 2003)  
More than twelve years after the AJI Report, Natives still make up 70% of inmates in Manitoba jails, yet represent only 15% of the population.  
The anniversary of J.J. Harper's death is commemorated each year in Manitoba as **Aboriginal Justice Awareness Day**.