

Gift 'N Gab

Audio Clip 2: Consumer Behaviour

Q: Has that ever been an issue? Where maybe even customers you get here that are First Nations that say there's certain things we should not share with just about anybody who comes through?

Kathie: There are a couple. There are a couple. I just don't get into it with them. It's just not worth it, for one thing. They've got their opinion and their belief in that matter. I've had some ladies come in, or some men too, that say why are you selling medicines like this, generically or smudging, things like that? You're not supposed to sell it. When it first started to happen, I was a little bit taken aback because I thought, not knowing, did I overstep? But, do you know, I have since then just accepted the fact that I'm not the only one, and if people believe in it. I mean, I do it. I do it personally on my own time. I have my own beliefs, and I have my own way of doing it and stuff like that. Then, they should be allowed to do that. So, have your belief. I'm sorry if it bothers you, but--

Q: That's on a personal basis, right? It's not in general that it can't be shared.

Kathie: And I tell all my customers that, and I'll explain that even when it comes to some of the apparel. They are very sensitive on whether or not they should wear it. Again, in my opinion, it's there to share, right? The only thing I would discourage and I would not agree with, is if it's a ceremonial blanket or ceremonial carvings or rattles and stuff like that. That's when you're crossing the line. The other thing that is not acceptable is making profit off the art. You can draw it. You can learn how to draw it. You can create your own designs and whatever you need, but the minute you try to profit off of it, you're

going to be in big trouble culturally. A lot of people are not very accepting to that.

Please note that this transcript has been slightly modified; it is not a verbatim copy of the original audio clip.