Although the Native people whose traditional territories lie along the border between Canada and the United States provide a perfect opportunity to analyze the different impact of the political and economic changes of the respective countries, there are remarkably few studies that attempt to do so. Samek (1986) called for comparative analyses in order to avoid duplicating misguided reforms in policy. Her comparison of Native policy in respect to the Blackfoot of Alberta and Montana represents a seminal work in the field of comparative political analysis (Samek 1987). Recently Miller (1992) presented an analysis of the role of women in the formal political structures of the same groups under consideration here. The Coast Salish of North Puget Sound and the Lower Fraser River, including the Sto:lo and Lummi, became subject to different political bodies, nevertheless they have maintained strong ceremonial and kinship ties across the border. Their differing experiences with political and economic forces are therefore instructive, particularly in respect to the interpretation of aboriginal rights.

A Model of Aboriginal Resource Use and Control

Figure 1 is a visual representation of the process of inclusion and exclusion that has characterized Native resource—use and control in the United States and Canada.

While designed—from study of the Pacific Coast salmon fisheries it is applicable—to other resources as well. By extension I would argue that this model also is applicable to other areas of North America (e.g., the Mikmaq fishery of the Maritimes and the Native fishery of the Great Lakes) and, perhaps, to other areas of the world where—indigenous people have similar colonial experiences (e.g. Australia and New Zealand). I have identified two variables, control and access, which—characterize the participation of Native peoples in resource—exploitation. While the specific process will vary from group