

## Activity 7

# Soul Wound



**Recommended Musical Score:**

*Who are We to Say?*

**Contributing Artists: Lisa Gerrard & Jeff Rona**  
**A Thousand Roads**

**Rockey Robbins, et al. *Through the Diamond Threshold:***

*Promoting Cultural Competency in Understanding American Indian Substance Misuse (2011)*

**Patricia Stilen, Editor *Activity 7: Soul Wound PowerPoint***





*Being Indian is an attitude, a state of mind, a way of being in harmony with all things and all beings. It is allowing the heart to be the distributor of energy on this planet; to allow feelings and sensitivities to determine where energy goes; bringing aliveness up from the Earth and from the Sky, putting it in and giving it out from the heart.*

Brooke Medicine Eagle



# Lord Amherst in a Letter to Colonel Bouquet July 1763

*Dear Col. Bouquet,  
Could it not be contrived to  
send Small Pox among those  
disaffected tribes of Indians?  
We must use every [strategy]  
in our power to reduce them.*

Lord Amherst, July 16, 1763



You Are Given a Blanket  
Infected with Smallpox



# Journal Entry of Royal American Captain Ecuyer, July 1763

Soon thereafter, an epidemic spreads across tribal nations residing near the Ohio River.

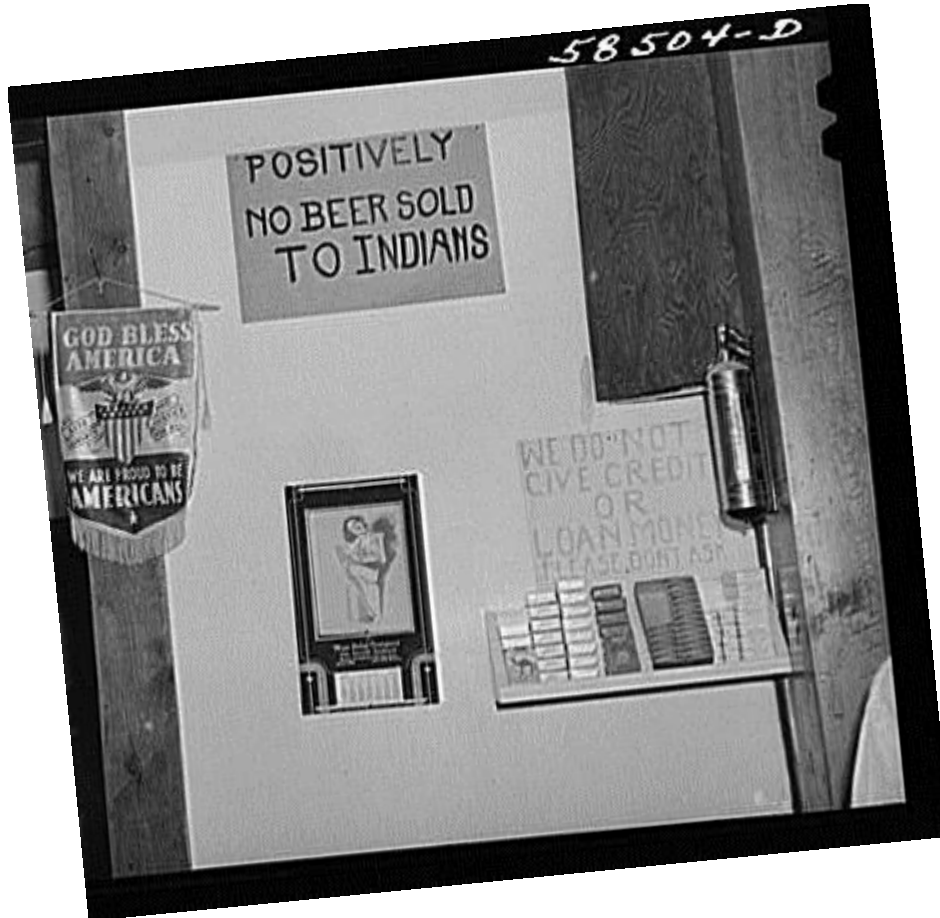


*Out of our regard for them (two Indian chiefs) we gave them two blankets and a handkerchief out of the smallpox hospital. I hope it will have the desired effect.*

Lord Amherst, July 16, 1763



# Indian Intercourse Act of 1832



This act made it illegal to sell liquor to an American Indian anywhere in the United States.

**Signs from Birney, Montana Drinking Establishment**

Repository: Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Division Washington, DC 20540 <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print>





# The Indian Removal Act - 1830



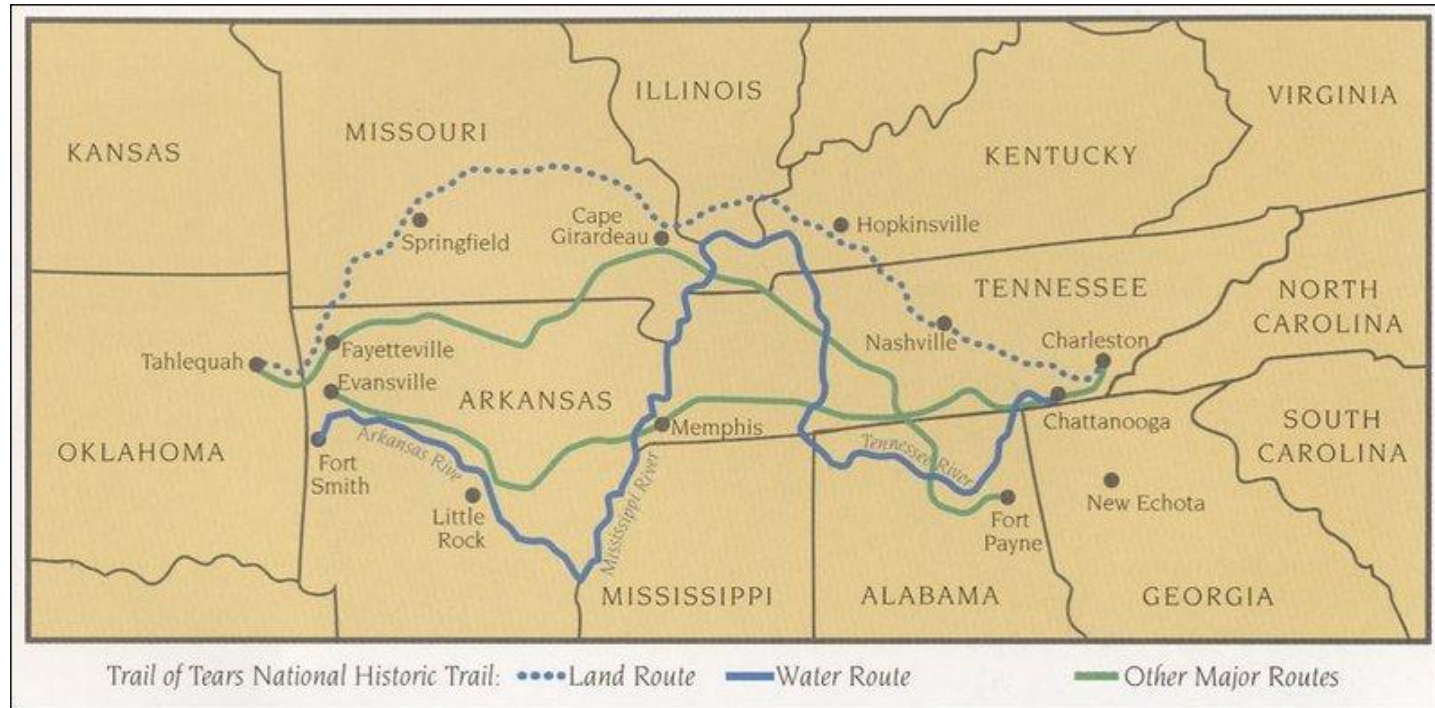
**Trail of Tears**

The Granger Collection, New York

The Creek, Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Seminoles lived much like white men, owned and farmed 25 million acres of land in the Southeast. When gold was discovered in Cherokee lands, white settlers wanted the land. Upon President Andrew Jackson's urging, Congress passed this Act setting in motion the events leading to the Trail of Tears.



# The Trail of Tears - 1839



Forced relocation of the Cherokee Native American tribe to the Western United States in 1838-39 resulted in the deaths of an estimated 4,000 Cherokee Indian people.



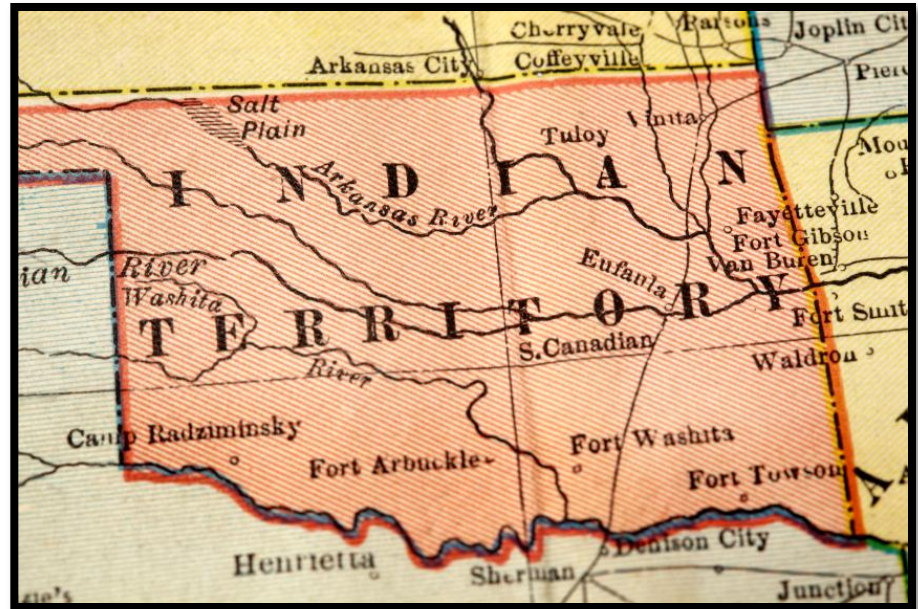
# The Trail of Tears - 1839

*"I saw the helpless Cherokees arrested and dragged from their homes, and driven at the bayonet point into the stockades. And in the chill of a drizzling rain on an October morning I saw them loaded like cattle or sheep into 645 wagons and started toward the west . . ."*

Private John G. Burnett

Captain Abraham McClellan's Company, 2nd Regiment, 2nd Brigade, Mounted Infantry

Cherokee Indian Removal 1838-39





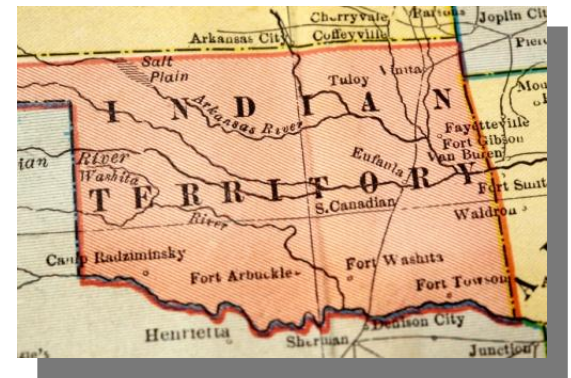
# The Trail of Tears - 1839

*“On the morning of November 17<sup>th</sup> we encountered a terrific sleet and snow storm with freezing temperatures and from that day until we reached the end of the fateful journey on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 1839, the sufferings of the Cherokees were awful . . . and I have known as many as twenty-two of them to die in one night of pneumonia due to ill treatment, cold and exposure . . .”*

Private John G. Burnett

Captain Abraham McClellan's Company

2nd Regiment, 2nd Brigade, Mounted Infantry, Cherokee Indian Removal 1838-39



# The Trail of Tears - 1839

*"We are now about to take our leave and kind farewell to our native land, the country the Great Spirit gave our Fathers, we are on the eve of leaving that country that gave us birth, it is with sorrow we are forced by the white man to quit the scenes of our childhood...we bid farewell to it and all we hold dear."*

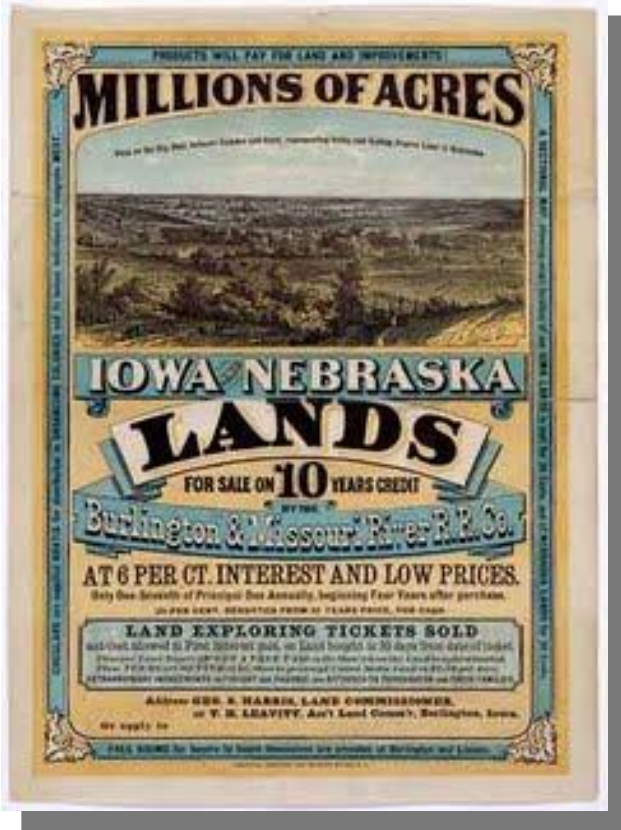
Charles Hicks, Tsalagi (Cherokee) Vice Chief speaking of The Trail of Tears, November 4, 1838

You Are Denied Rights as a  
Human Being  
Prejudice & Discrimination

Loss of Self-Sufficiency  
Forced into Work that Alienates  
You from the 4 Seasons (i.e.,  
Loss of Land Rights, Water  
Rights, Hunting Rights)



# The Homestead Act - 1862



- Allowed U.S. citizens, or those who had filed for citizenship, to submit claim for 65 hectares in return for a \$10 fee
- After living or farming on the land 5 + years, a homesteader paid fee for title to the land
- Spurred settlement of land designated as "Indian territory" at a time when American Indians were not considered citizens

Lose Rights to  
Live on Homeland  
&/or Own "Property"



*“We, the great mass of the people think only of the love we have for our land, we do love the land where we were brought up.*

*We will never let our hold to this land go, to let it go it will be like throwing away (our) mother that gave (us) birth.”*

Letter from Aitooweyah to John Ross, Principal Chief of the Cherokees





# The Dawes Act - 1887



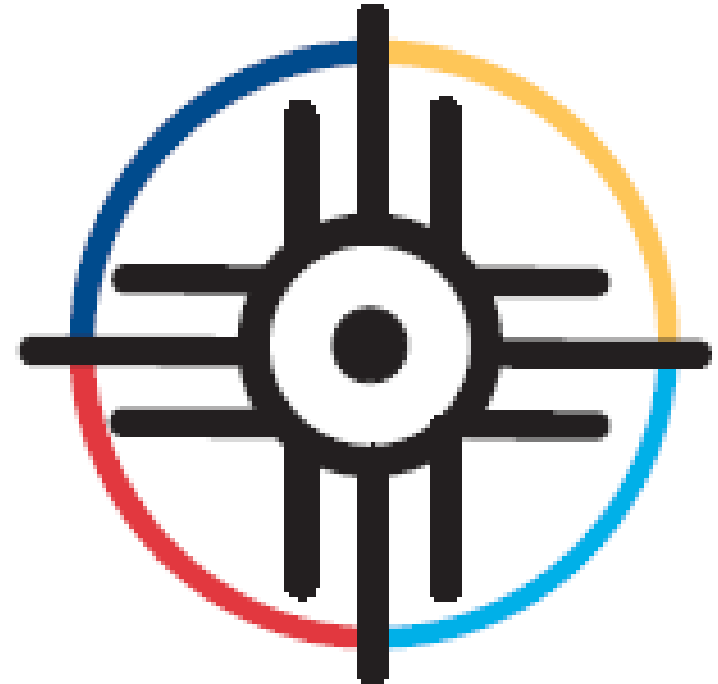
Established a census of American Indians known as the Dawes Rolls and allotted tribal lands to individual Indians.

*Debo, Angie. And Still the Waters Run: The Betrayal of the Five Civilized Tribes* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1940; new edition, Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1984)



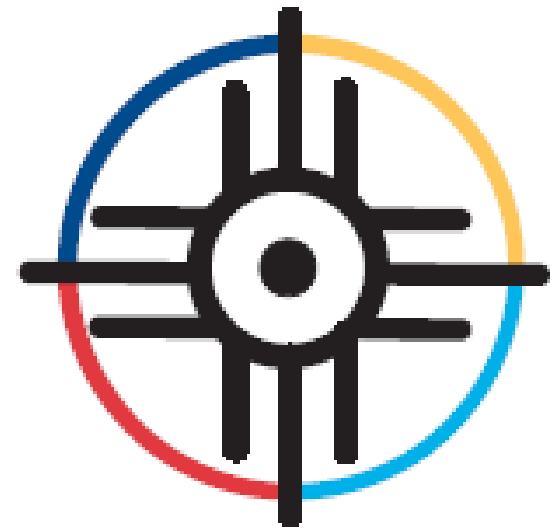
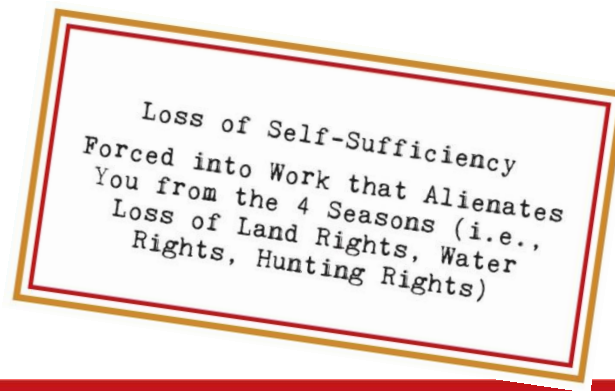
# Dawes Act – The Impact

- Not sufficient for economic viability
- Most allotment land could be sold after statutory period of 25 years
- Land was eventually sold to non-Native buyers at bargain prices



# Dawes Act – The Impact

- About 90,000 Indians were made landless.
- Over 47 years, American Indians lost about 90 million acres of treaty land, or about 2/3 of the 1887 land base.
- Land deemed "surplus" opened to white settlers, though the profits from the sales of these lands were often invested in programs meant to aid the American Indians.



# Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities (1906)

- Excavation, theft or destruction of historic or prehistoric ruins or objects of antiquity on federal lands became a criminal offense.
- However, Indian corpses and Indian artifacts were defined as "archeological resources" and thus considered federal property.



Sacred Objects &  
Family Possessions  
Displayed in a Museum





# The Indian Citizenship Act of 1924

Granted U.S. citizenship to American Indians, including the right to vote in national elections. However, it did not provide full protection under the Bill of Rights to Indians living under tribal governments. Several nations, including the Hopi and the Iroquois, declined U.S. citizenship in favor of retaining sovereign nationhood.

[www.america.gov](http://www.america.gov)



# Citizenship Act

1924

United States-born  
indigenous people were  
granted U.S. citizenship.



# The Boarding School Experience



Carlisle Indian School (1904)

Captain Richard H. Pratt, a former military officer, opened the first boarding school, the *Carlisle Indian School*, located on an abandoned military post in Carlisle, Pennsylvania in 1878.



# The Boarding School Experience

*“When they first took us in school, they gave us government lace-up shoes . . .  
Then they gave us a number. My number was always 23.”*

Lilly Quoetone Nahwoods-Numa-Nu: The Comanche People, Fort Sill Indian School Experience



Apache children on arrival at the Carlisle Indian School wearing traditional clothing . . .



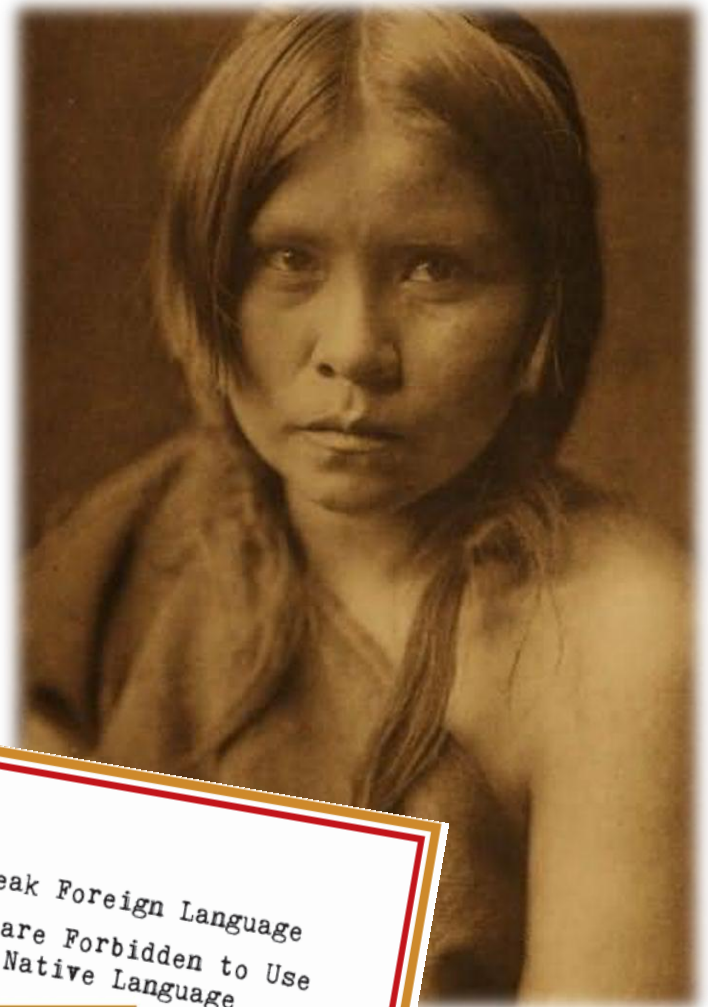
. . . same children four months later







"Ah Chee Lo" from the Edward Curtis Collection (1905)



Speak Foreign Language  
You are Forbidden to Use  
Native Language

Trauma:  
Taken from Home, Family,  
Everything and Everyone You  
Know (at Age 5-6)



# Boarding School Experience



Chippewa Woman & Child 1900  
<http://www.firstpeople.us>

“Your son died quietly, without suffering, like a man. We have dressed him in his good clothes and tomorrow we will bury him the way White people do.”

Capt. Richard H. Pratt, 1880

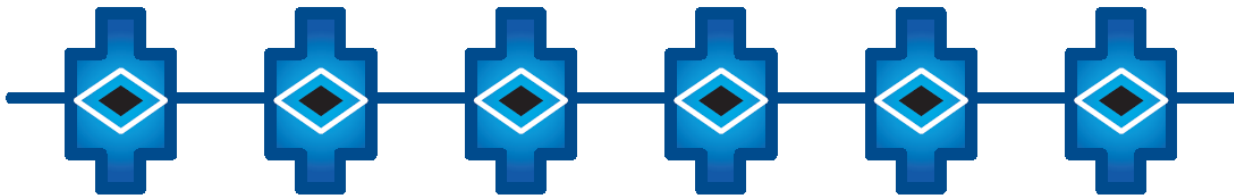
Trauma:  
Your Child is Taken to  
Boarding School Against  
Your Will



# Indian Reorganization Act (1934)

## [Wheeler-Howard Act]

- Reinstituted the role of sovereign tribes as governments for Indian people and their lands
- Ended Indian land allotment and strengthened tribal governments; restoration of tribal lands and powers



# The Termination Act of 1953

- 109 Native nations were terminated by this act.
- Some tribes were restored to being federally recognized tribes in the 1970s (Ponca, Menominee, Kilamath and others).



Powder Face, wife & child  
<http://www.firstpeople.us>



Big Goose (Ponca) 1914  
<http://www.firstpeople.us>





# Repeal of Prohibition Act of 1953



Allowed Native Americans to purchase liquor in same way as all other citizens of the United States.



# The Indian Civil Rights Act - 1968

- Prohibited Indian tribal governments from enacting or enforcing laws that violate certain individual rights
- Contained language similar to the Bill of Rights in U.S. Constitution
- Did not prohibit an Indian nation from establishing an official religion



# Indian Self-Determination & Education Assistance Act 1975

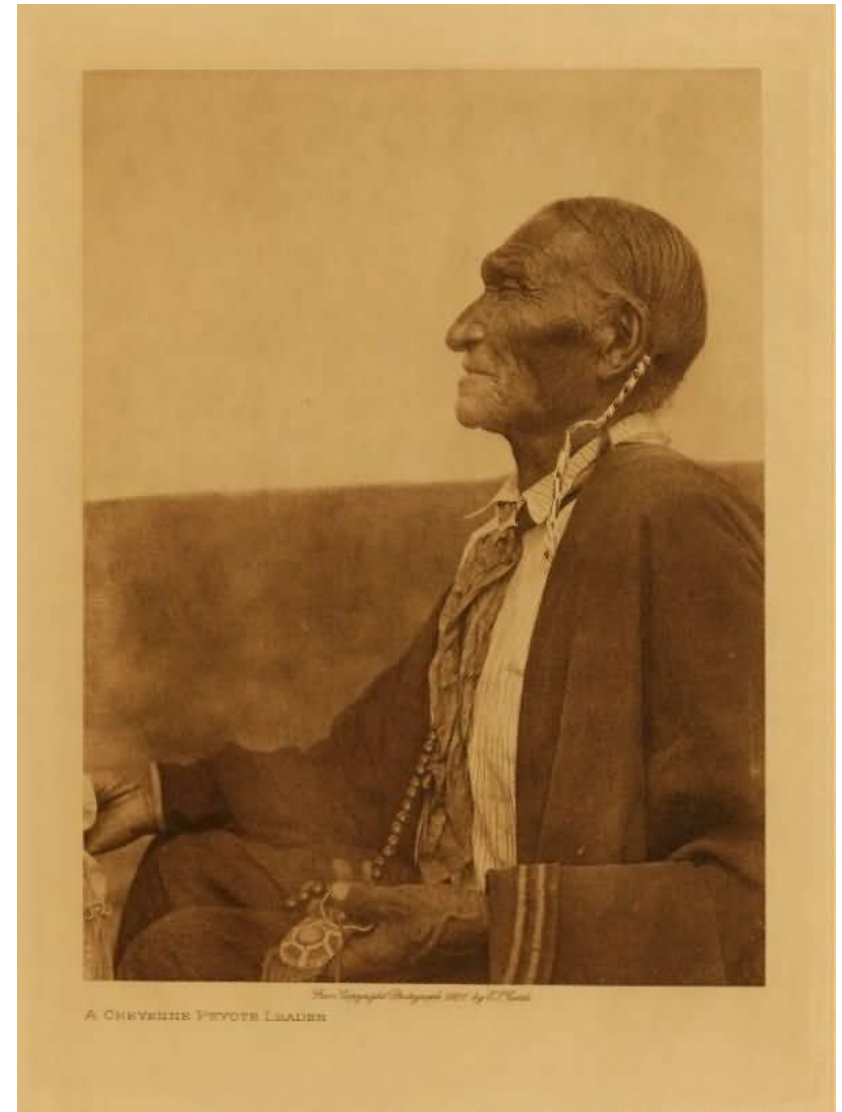
Expanded control in  
administering federal programs  
and services to their people.



# Native American Freedom of Religion Act 1978

Protected and preserved the American Indian's inherent right to believe, express and exercise their traditional religion, including access to sites, use and possession of sacred objects, worship through ceremonial and traditional rites.

May Not Express  
Spiritual Practice  
or Religion  
(Before 1973)



# Indian Child Welfare Act - 1978

- Established mandatory procedures for state agencies and courts in Indian child custody matters
- Established that American Indians are allowed to act as foster parents and qualify for adoption
- Provided Indian communities with child welfare and family services



You Do Not Grow Up With  
Your Birth Father

Grow Up in Adoptive Home  
with No AI Cultural  
Experience





# Native American Freedom of Religion Act 1978



May Not Express  
Spiritual Practice  
or Religion  
(Before 1973)

Speak Foreign Language  
You are Forbidden to Use  
Native Language

## Children Praying in Customary Christian Tradition

A religious component of the typical boarding school experience further removed the Native American children from their tribal heritage or rites



# Court Case of Standing Bear vs. Crook 1979

- Filed in favor of Standing Bear. Decided that Native Americans are people with the same rights as any other foreigner in the United States.
- In August 1881, 26,236 acres in Knox County, NE were returned to the Ponca people.



You Are Denied Rights as a  
Human Being  
Prejudice & Discrimination



# The American Indian People: Current Status



Joseph Zeller



# Poverty

*“A poor Native American faces more hurdles than a poor anybody.”*

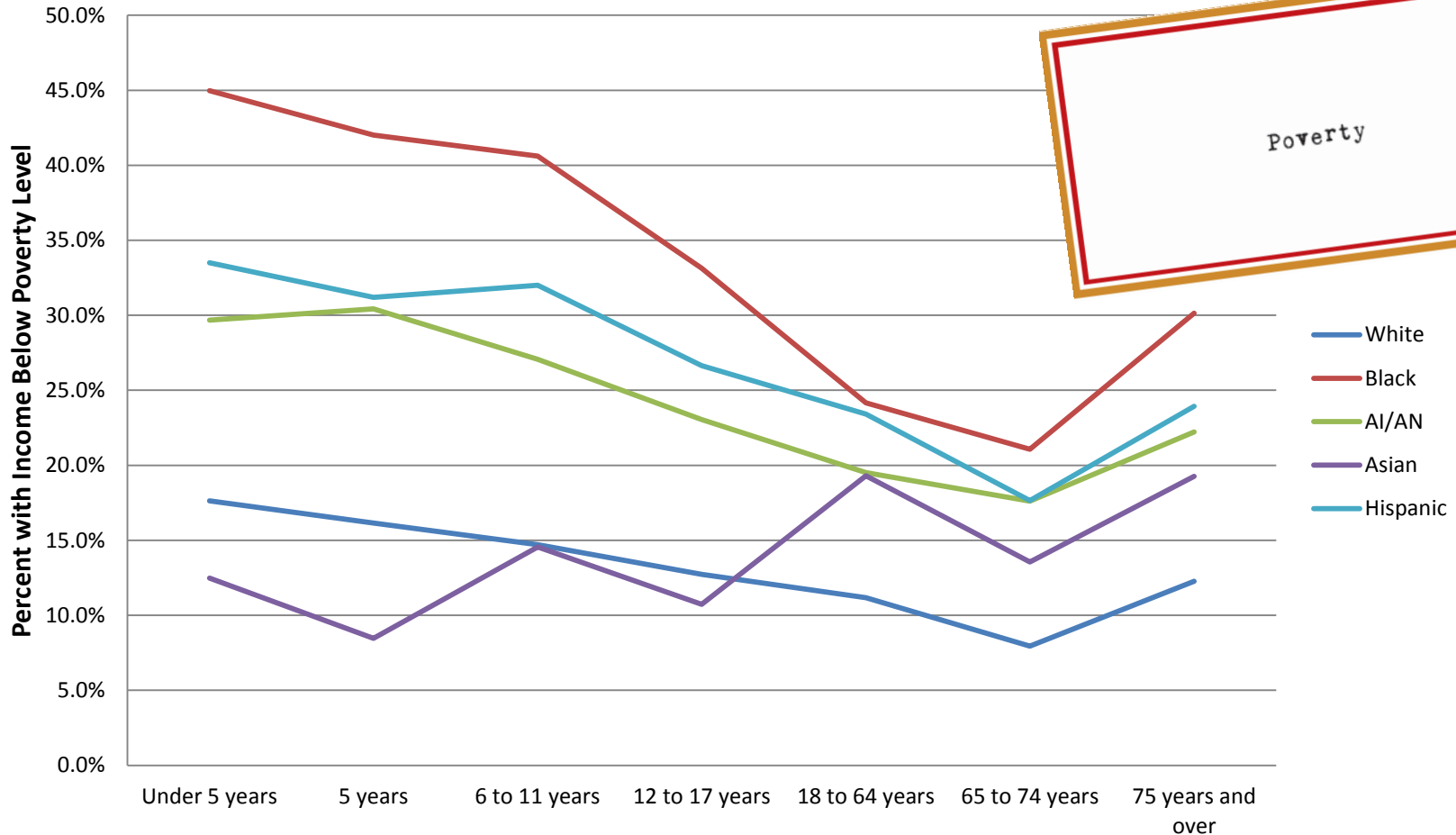
Sherman Alexie, Author



Poverty



# Oklahoma Poverty by Age and Race



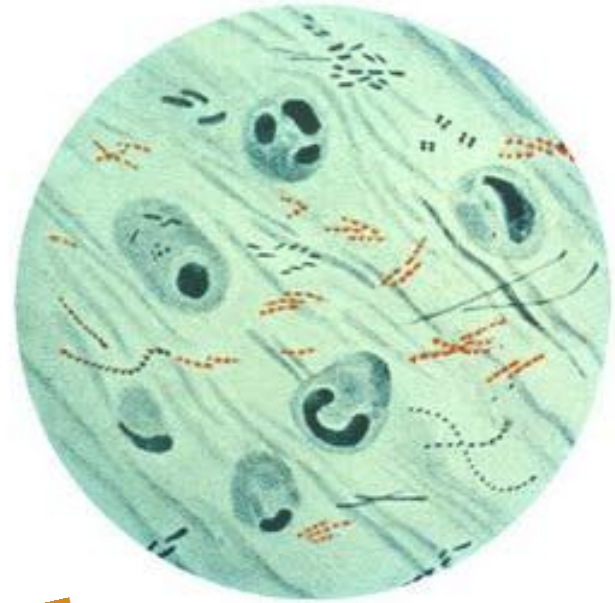
U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 – Poverty Status in 1999 by Age (White Alone, Black Alone, AI/AN Alone, Asian Alone, Hispanic)





# Health Disparities

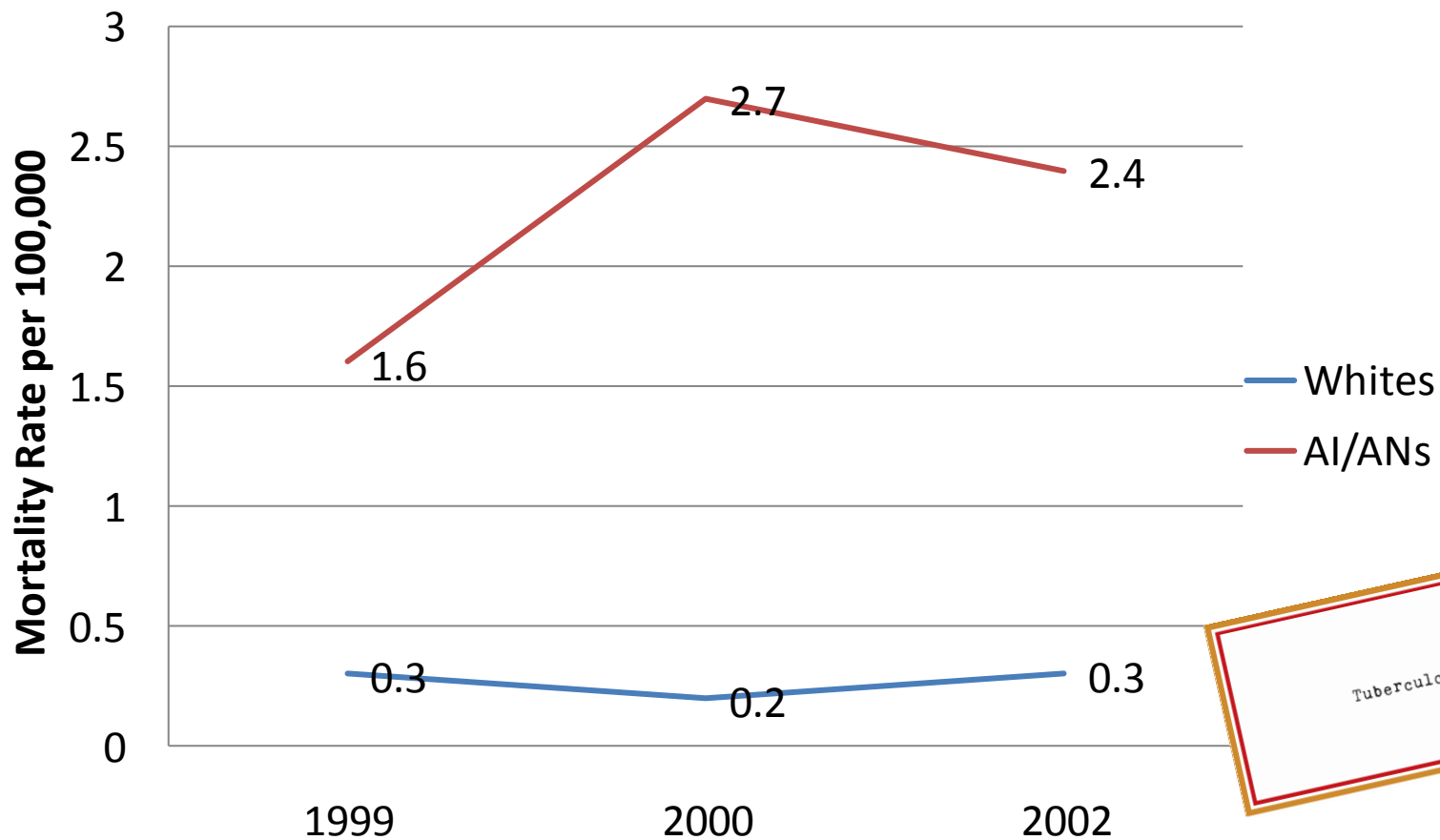
American Indians and Alaska  
Natives die at higher rates than  
other Americans from  
tuberculosis (750% higher)



Tuberculosis



## Tuberculosis Mortality Rate in Oklahoma by Race



OK2SHARE Mortality Data, US Standard Age-Adjusted, IHS Linked 1999-2003, Insufficient counts for AI/ANs in 2001 and 2003



# Health Disparities

When American Indian/Alaska Native adults are compared to non-Hispanic whites, they were . . .

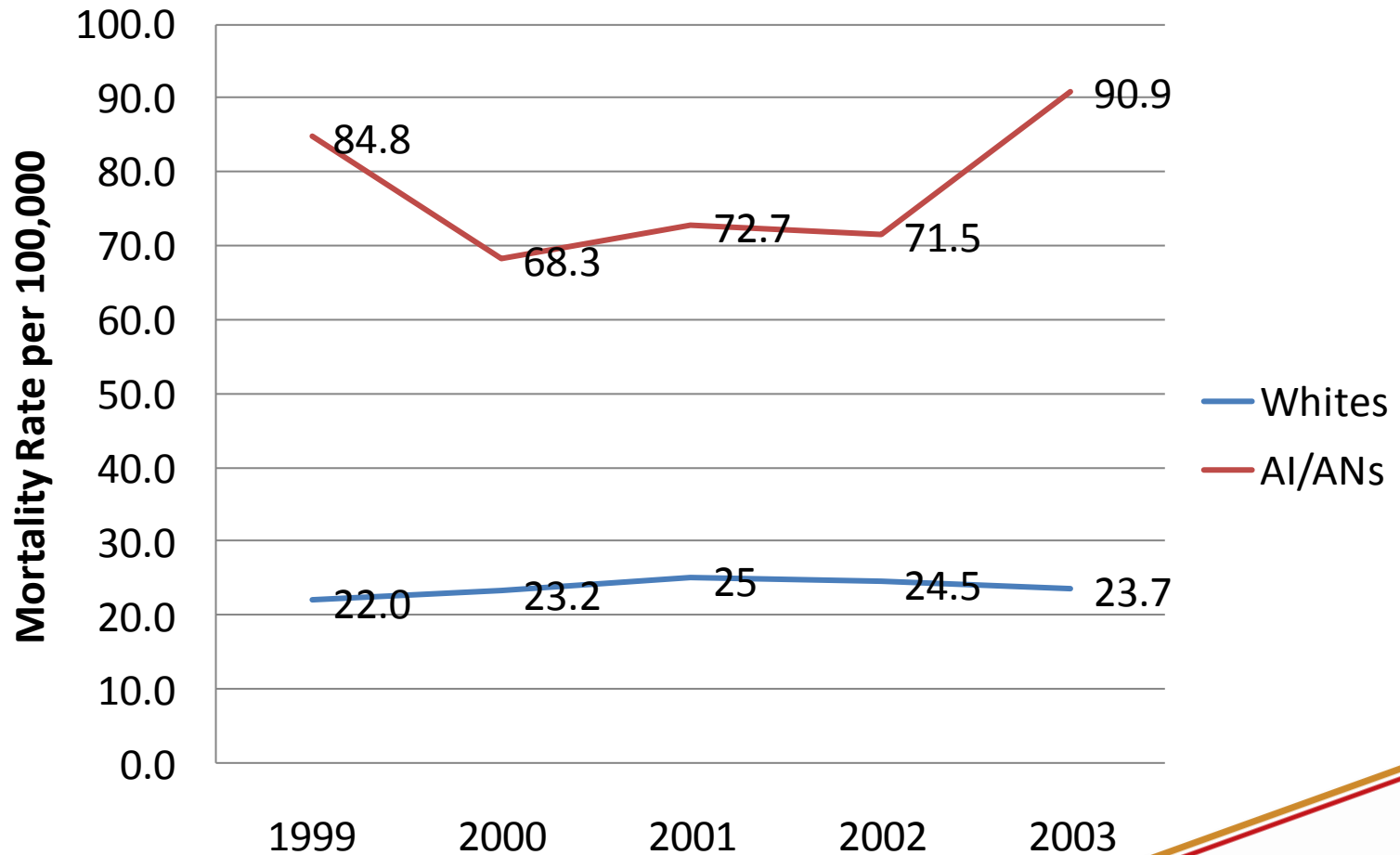
- 2.3 times as likely to have diabetes
- 1.6 times as likely to be obese
- 1.3 times as likely to have high blood pressure
- 190% higher death rate



Diabetes Type 2



## Diabetes Mortality Rate in Oklahoma By Race



OK2SHARE Mortality Data, US Standard Age-Adjusted, IHS Linked 1999-2003

Diabetes Type 2



# Health Disparities

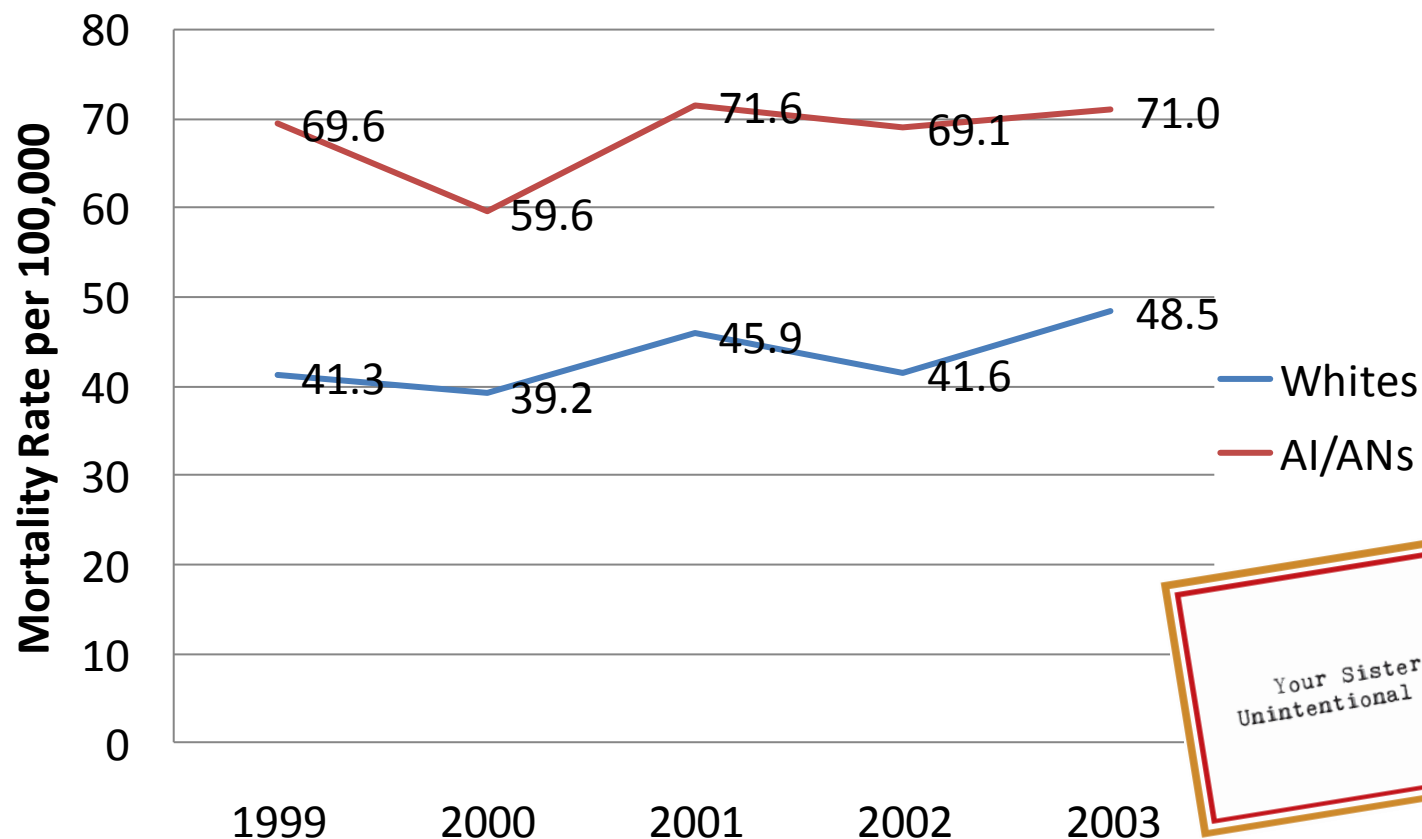
American Indians and Alaska  
Natives die at higher rates than  
other Americans from  
unintentional injuries (150%  
higher)

Your Sister Experiences  
Unintentional Injury and Dies





## Unintentional Injury Mortality in Oklahoma by Race



Your Sister Experiences  
Unintentional Injury and Dies

OK2SHARE Mortality Data, US Standard Age-Adjusted, IHS Linked 1999-2003

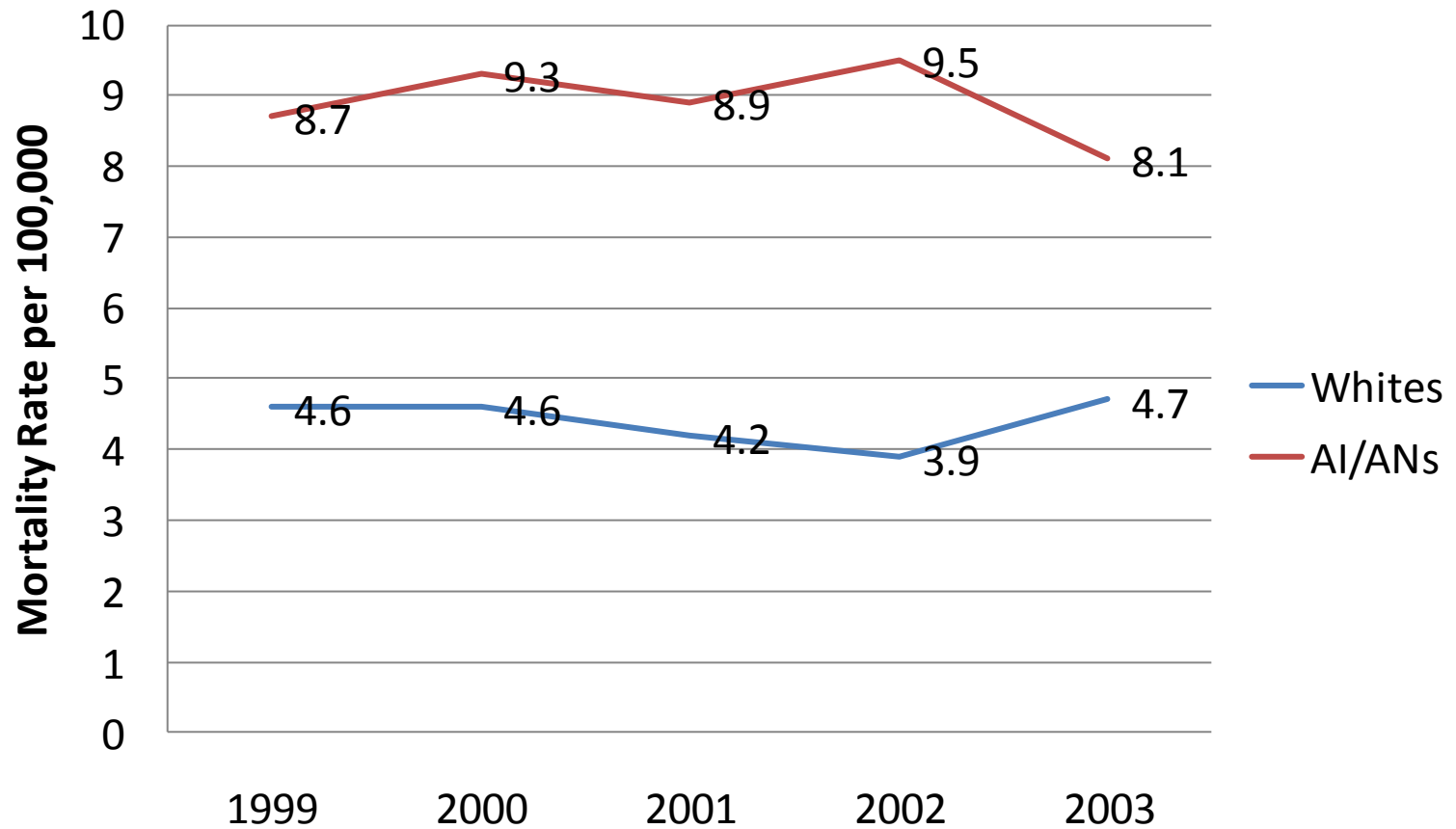


# Health Disparities

American Indians and Alaska Natives die at higher rates than other Americans from **homicide (100% higher)**



## Homicide Mortality Rate in Oklahoma by Race



OK2SHARE Mortality Data, US Standard Age-Adjusted, IHS Linked 1999-2003

Homicide in Family



# Health Disparities

American Indians and Alaska Natives die at higher rates than other Americans from **suicide (70% higher)**

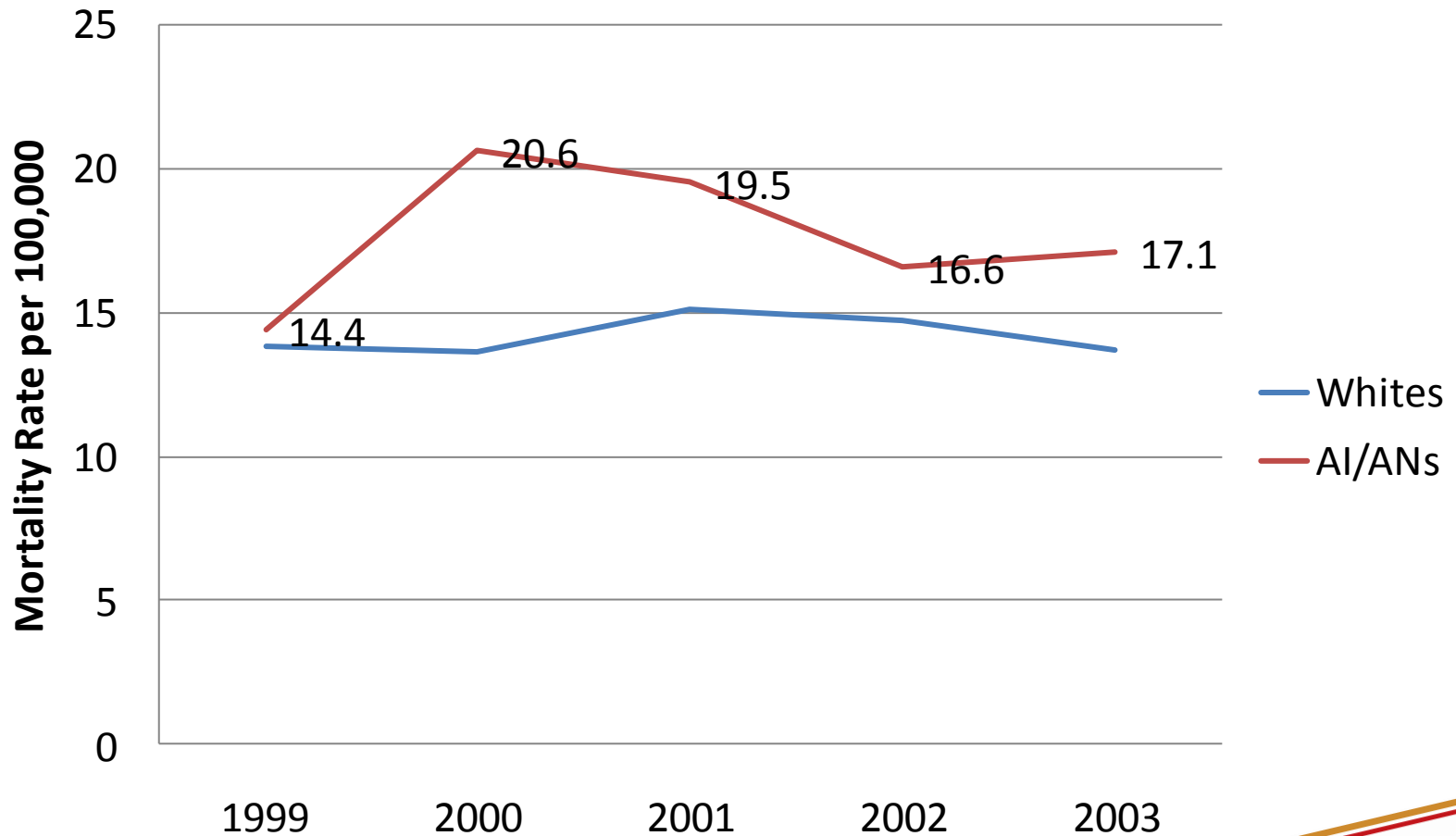
Trauma:  
Older Brother Takes  
His Life

Mental Health Disorder  
Anxiety  
Depression  
Suicidal Thinking

Trauma:  
Death/Loss of Significant  
Role Model to Suicide



## Suicide Mortality in Oklahoma by Race



OK2SHARE Mortality Data, US Standard Age-Adjusted, IHS Linked 1999-2003

Trauma:  
Older Brother Takes  
His Life





# Infectious Disease

Ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in rate of new infections of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) compared with all other races and ethnicities.

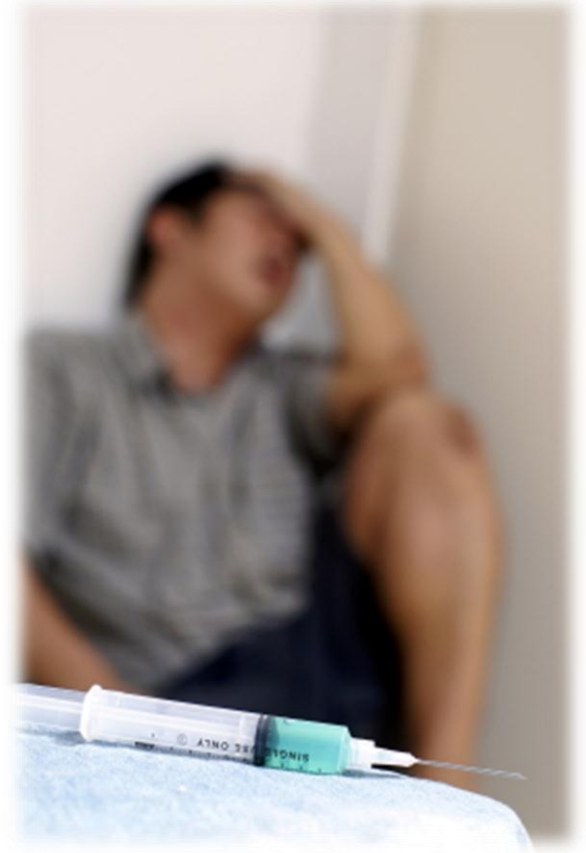


# Illicit Drug Use

## 2006 National Survey on Drug Use and Health

Highest rate of illicit drug use was among  
American Indian/Alaska Natives (13.7%)

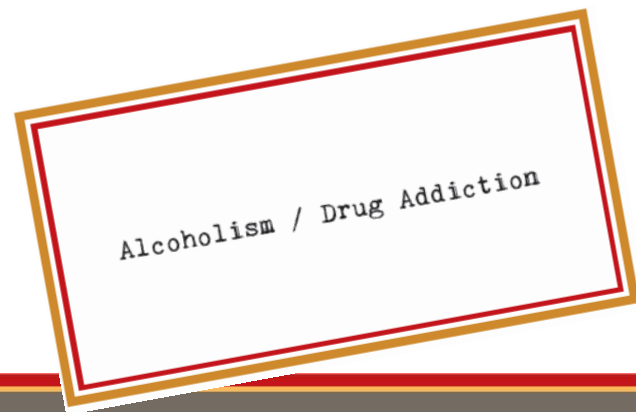
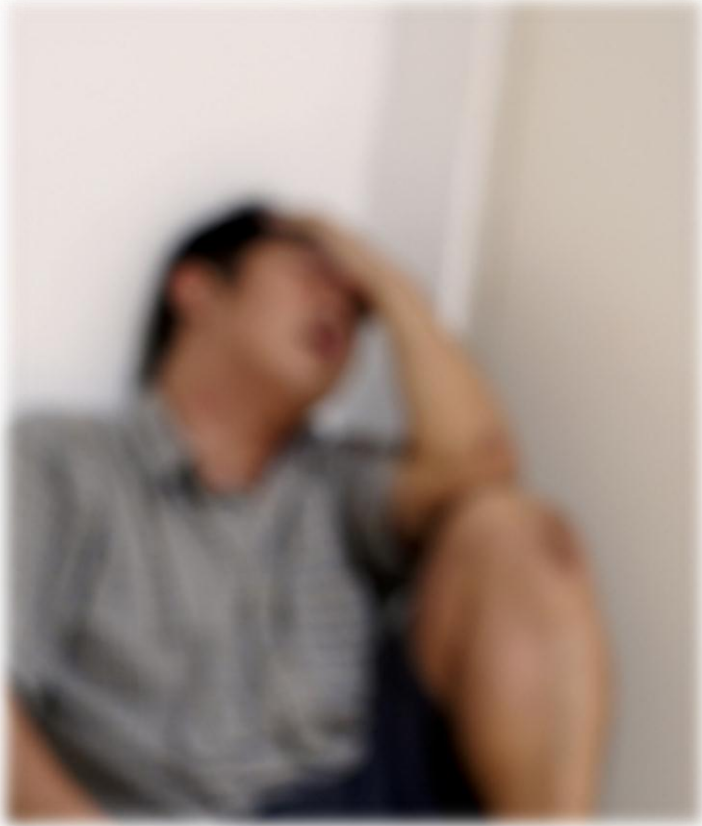
Alcoholism / Drug Addiction



# Alcoholism Mortality

## Indian Health Service 2010

American Indians use and abuse alcohol and other drugs at younger ages and at higher rates than all other ethnic groups, and die from alcoholism at a rate **519% higher** than that of other Americans.



<http://info.ihs.gov/Disparities.asp> (05/05/2010)



# Female Illicit Drug Use



- More vulnerable to abuse and addiction
- Become addicted faster and suffer the consequences sooner than boys and young men

Alcoholism / Drug Addiction



# Intimate Partner Violence

At least 1 out of every 3 American Indian females has been subject to intimate partner violence



- Intimate partner violence includes rape, physical assault or stalking
- Highest rates of intimate partner violence compared to all other groups
- One in 10 AI/AN women has been stalked in her lifetime

Trauma:  
Rape/Incest

Trauma:  
Domestic Violence

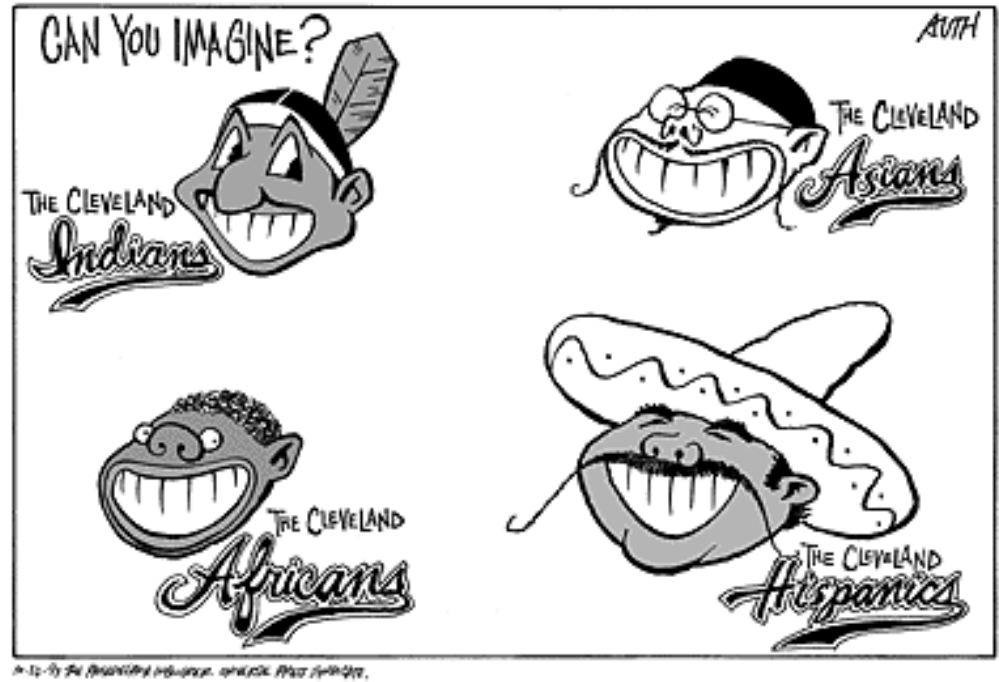




# Ethnic Images

*“[We] see icons or pictures that are not reflective of the people or cultures...They become caricatures, and that’s offensive in itself, as it would be to any other race if they were caricatured.”*

Jacqueline Johnson  
National Congress of American Indians



Overt  
Discrimination



# Ethnic Images & Stereotypes

*“The woo-woo sounds, the face paint, the misuse of sacred feathers all cause embarrassment to Native people and are a direct violation of civil rights laws which state that all children must be able to comfortably participate in all activities in their schools.”*



Students and Teachers Against Racism  
Understanding the American Indian Mascot Issue: A Collection of Writings on Team Names and Logos



# Ethnic Images & Stereotypes



Few Role Models in:  
Media  
Television  
Text Books



# American Indian Cultural Revitalization

*Having survived abuse by those who thought they were better because of their race, American Indians have had to find their own validation, and, as such, it is unshakeable . . . Indians know now that no one can truly control them. Indians are able to laugh and remain cheerful in the face of adversity because their ancestors were able to cry and to laugh at the blood-dimmed tide of colonization.*

Rockey Robbins, Ph.D. (2010)



# American Indian Cultural Revitalization

*The American Indian has learned that there is always joy and happiness within, waiting to be accessed, no matter what the external conditions.*

Rockey Robbins, Ph.D. (2010)





# US Federal Legislation – 1980s

**The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (1988)** allowed tribes to conduct gambling on their land after negotiating agreements with their state governments.



**Riverwind Casino** Tribe: Chickasaw Nation Location: Norman, Oklahoma



# US Federal Legislation – 1980s



## **The National Museum of the American Indian Act (1989)**

ordered the Smithsonian Institution  
to return American Indian remains  
to American Indian tribes.



# US Federal Legislation – 1990s

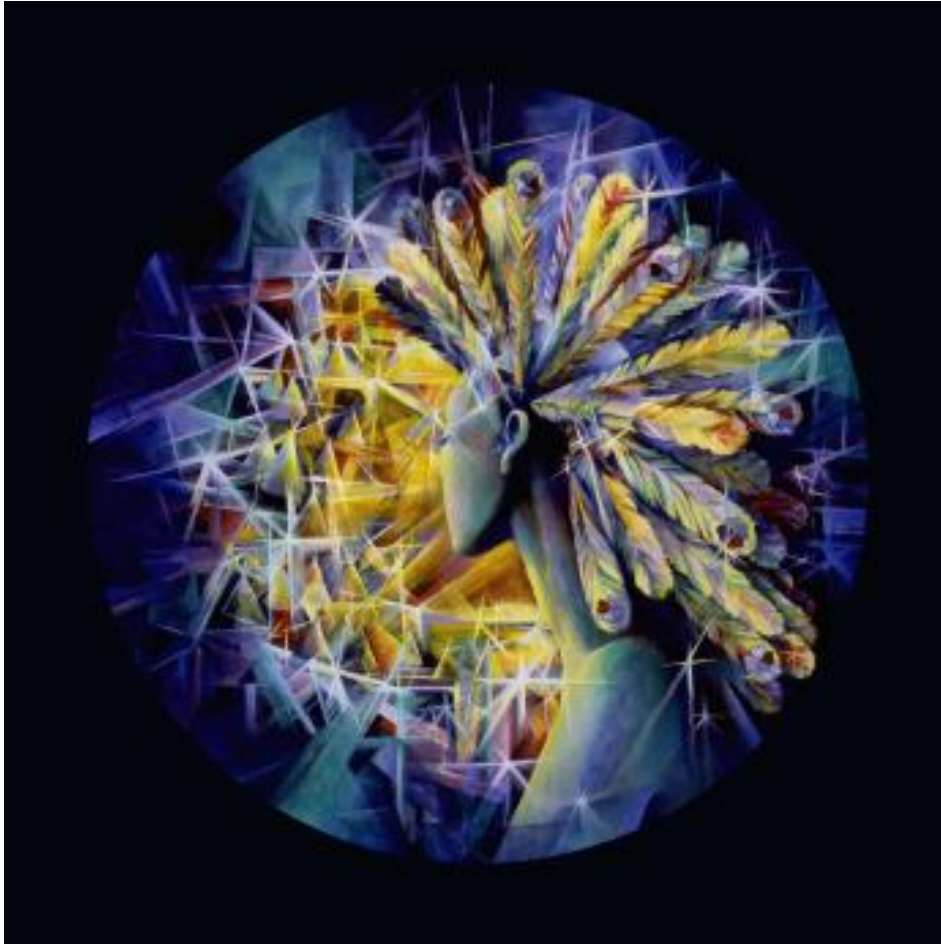
## Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act (1990)

—The Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act (1990) addressed rights of lineal descendants and Indian tribes and organizations to human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and cultural items.

—The statute required federal agencies and museums to provide information about cultural items to parties withstanding and, upon presentation of a valid claim, ensure that the items undergo disposition or repatriation.



# US Federal Legislation – 1990s



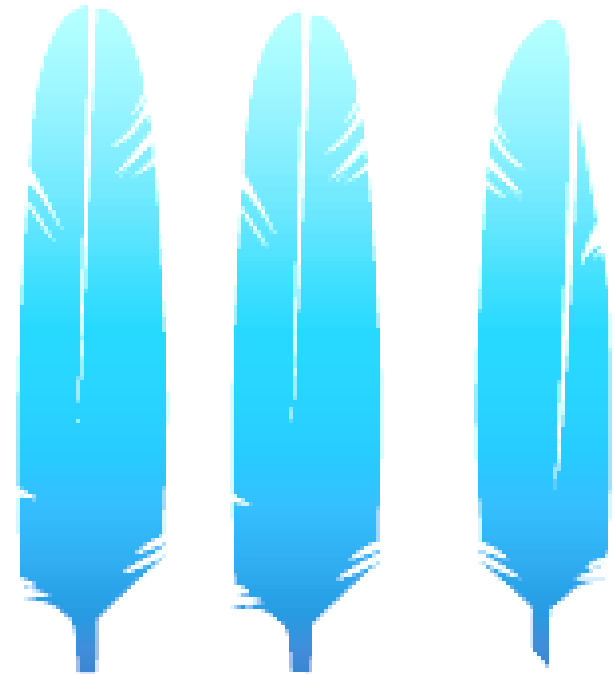
**Ecumenical Magnum Opus**  
Original oil painting by Jenny Speckels

**The Indian Arts and  
Crafts Act (1990)**  
established protections  
for the work of Indian  
artists.



# US Federal Legislation – 1980s

**The Indian Trust Reform Act (1994)**  
outlined the responsibilities of U.S.  
Secretary of the Interior with respect  
to the individual trust accounts  
established in the General Allotment  
Act or Dawes Act of 1887.





# US Federal Legislation – 2000-2010

## **The Indian Tribal Justice Technical and Legal Assistance Act (2000)**

increased American Indians' access to legal assistance and sought to enhance the capabilities of tribal courts.



# US Federal Legislation – 2000-2010

**The American Indian  
Probate Reform Act (2004)**  
established uniform  
procedures for inheritance of  
land allotments authorized in  
the Dawes Act of 1887.



# US Federal Legislation – 2000-2010

## The Native American Housing Assistance & Self-Determination Reauthorization Act (2008)

- Reauthorized affordable housing programs for American Indians
- Created a new guaranteed loan program for community and economic development activities for tribes



Image from:  
Office of Native American Programs (ONAP)  
<http://nhl.gov/offices/pih/ih/codetalk/onap/index.cfm>



# Our Future?

*“ . . . . if we’re going to own the good part of American history, we also have to own the not so good part of American history and acknowledge that that happened and acknowledge that it has consequences to this day, and that’s a critical element . . . ”*



Kevin Gover, Director of the National Museum of the American Indian  
National Public Radio (NPR) Interview  
**A Time of Thanks, Painful Reflection** Nov 28, 2008

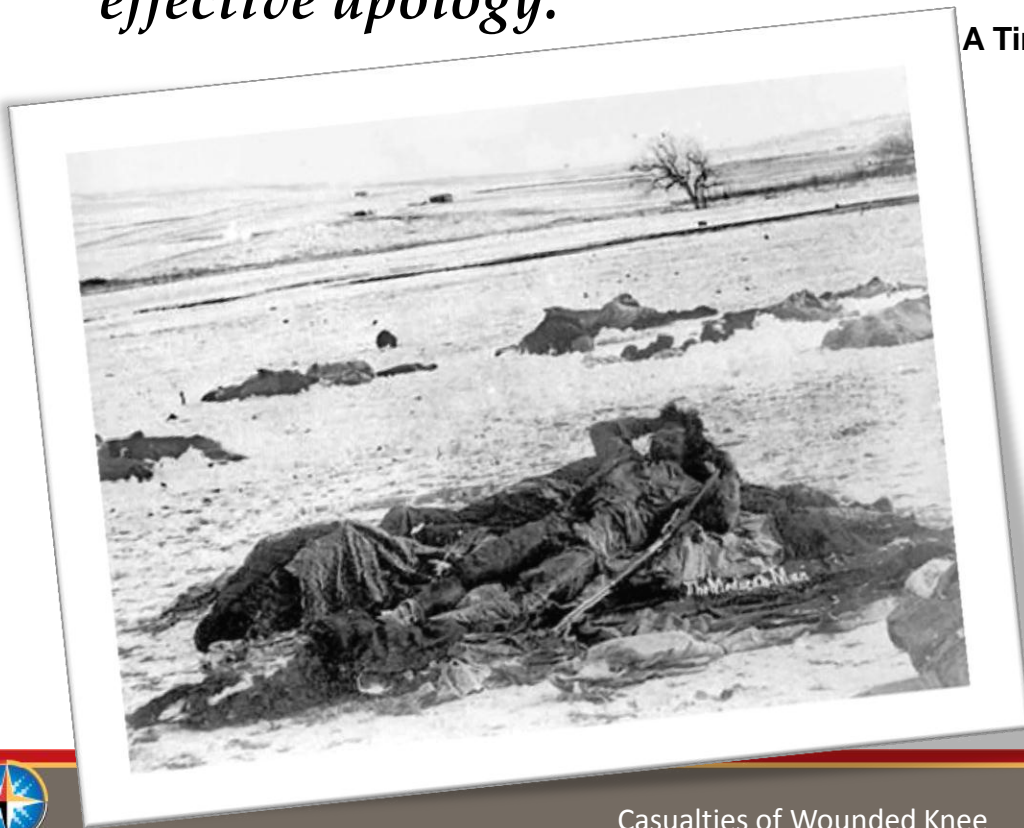


# Reconciliation?

*“... but at least as important is – as the acknowledgement of past wrongs, is a commitment not to repeat them. And if you have those two elements you’re on your way to a very effective apology.”*

Kevin Gover, Director of the National Museum of the American Indian  
National Public Radio (NPR) Interview

**A Time of Thanks, Painful Reflection** Nov 28, 2008





# Soul Wound



Marwin Begae, Artist

*Through the Diamond Threshold:*

*Promoting Cultural Competency in Understanding American Indian Substance Misuse*

**Musical Score:**

*Who are We to Say?*

**Contributing Artists: Lisa Gerrard & Jeff Rona**

**A Thousand Roads**

