



Broken Treaties, Broken Promises, Broken Hearts

Native Peoples
In America



What is Genocide?

1946 United Nations Definition:

... A denial of the right of existence
of entire human groups.

1946 U.N. Definition of Genocide, continued.

- Killing members of the group.
- Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group.
- Deliberately inflicting conditions of life on the group calculated to bring physical destruction in whole or in part.
- Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group.
- Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.



Genocide and Native Americans

In 1776 there were at least 12 million Native American people in the 48 contiguous states of America.

Today there fewer than 2 million.

Genocide and Native Americans, continued.

- Killing Members of The Group
 - Forced Removal from Homelands.
 - Mass execution
 - By US government troops
 - Bounty on scalps
 - Biological Warfare
 - Imprisonment
 - Execution
 - Wholesale extermination of villages, including women and children
 - Starvation on reservations

Genocide and Native Americans, continued.

- Bodily and Mental Harm to the a Group
 - Separation from family, friends, land, possessions.
 - Forced removal from homelands
 - Prevention of religious practices
 - Enslavement and forced labor
 - Racism

Genocide and Native Americans, continued.

- Deliberately Inflicting Conditions Calculated to Bring Physical Destruction, in Whole or In Part

- By US government policy, reservation superintendents *deliberately* withheld:
 - Food
 - Adequate shelter
 - Sanitation
 - Medicine and hospitals

Genocide and Native Americans, continued.

- **Imposing Measures Intended to Prevent Births Within the Group**

- **Sterilization of Untold Numbers of Indian Women**

- Documented 3,000 Indian women sterilized on one reservation alone *in one year*.
- More undocumented sterilizations
- Misinformation and lies
- 75% of all sterilizations non-therapeutic
- Plan to sterilize between 4% & 6% of child-bearing Native American population per year.

Genocide and Native Americans, continued.

- Forcibly Transferring Children of the Group to Another Group

- Fostering Children out of the Tribe
- Boarding Schools & Indian Mission Schools

“Kill the Indian to save the man.”

--Captain Richard H. Pratt

Founder, Carlisle Indian Industrial School

1892

Genocide and Native Americans, continued.

- Children stripped of
 - Parents and loving relationships
 - Personal safety
 - Spiritual comfort
 - Mentoring in traditional survival skills
 - Language
 - Traditional clothing
 - Hair
 - Human dignity

Genocide and Native Americans, continued.

- Children subjected to
 - Fear
 - Emotional abuse
 - Physical abuse
 - Sexual abuse
 - Isolation
 - Shame
 - Amputation of familial and cultural roots

Genocide and Native Americans, continued.

- From this separation from parents and culture result :
 - Shame
 - Trauma
 - Post-traumatic stress
- These symptoms persist into today's generation.



Fact:

The hands of the clock
cannot be turned back.

Fact:

A new wind is blowing.



Washington Turning Points

- Clinton Decree
- Centennial Accord
- DSHS 7.01 Memorandum
- State and federal funding for Traditional Healing and Cultural Training
- Increased public awareness and concern



Tribal Turning Points

- Tribes now have the authority to:
 - Provide alcohol and chemical dependency treatment for Tribal members.
 - Provide treatment for Mental Illness for Tribal members.
 - Teach their children and mentor parenting skills.

- Build economic futures for coming generations.
- Pass down cultural & traditional ways.
- Build relationships within the Tribal community.
- Educate their children.
- Provide higher education for Tribal young people.

- Tribes are:
 - Re-instilling pride in heritage in this & future generations.
 - Asserting Indian Civil Rights.
 - Asserting Sovereignty.
 - Re-acquiring ancestral lands, purchase by purchase.

Chief Smoholla, Wanapun Tribe, 1885

- ◇ God said he was the father of and earth was the mankind; that nature was the law; that the animals, and fish and plants beyond nature, and that man only was sinful.

You ask me to plow the ground! Shall I take a knife and tear my mother's bosom?

- ◇ Then when I die she will not take me to her bosom to rest.

❖ You ask me to dig for stone! Shall I dig under her skin for her bones?

Then when I die I cannot enter her body to be born again.

❖ You ask me to cut grass and make hay and sell it, and be rich like white men!

But how dare I cut off my mother's hair?



Telling these stories,
as they happened,
keeps Truth alive
and protects
future generations
of all peoples.