Winter Storytelling: Our Indigenous Past, Present, and Future of Advocacy

February 25, 2020

Presenter: Rebecca Balog



Welcome, Wellness, and Introduction



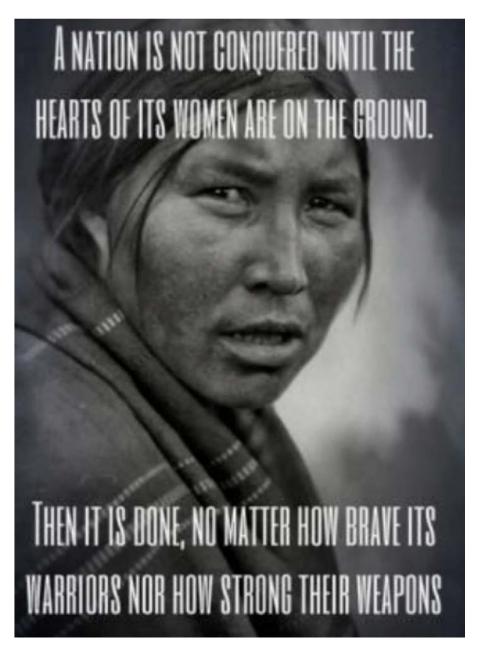
Rebecca Balog



Goals for Today

- Similarities
- Differences
- Common Purposes
- Bridges
- Collaboration



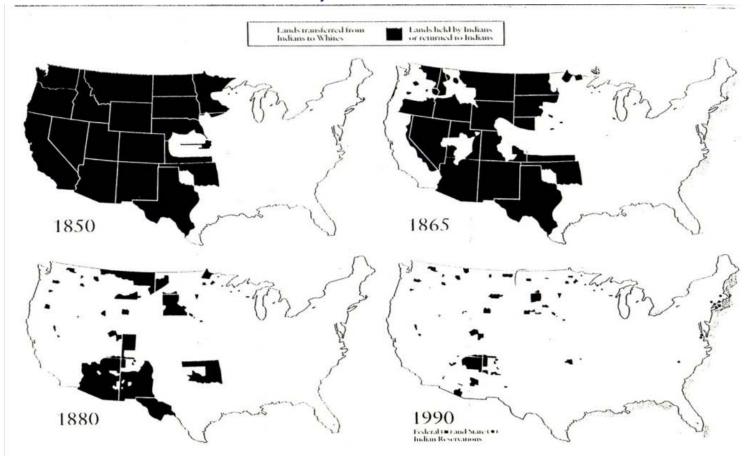


Guiding Principles

- Connections across generations come from storytelling.
 Connections across cultures can also come from storytelling.
- Survivor stories have offered incredible contributions impacting the work to end domestic and sexual violence (education, intervention, prevention, policy, and program/services).
- Collaboration between underserved victims and survivors of crime can broaden and deepen our ability to work to end violence across our communities.
- Space for respectful understanding (each individual story is as unique as a human fingerprint).



Storytelling Intergenerational Advocacy and Activism: Past, Present and Future





Black shows land owned by Indians or returned to by Indians, white shows lands transferred from Indians to Whites

Sovereignty, Advocacy, and Activism

Sovereignty is a government-to-government relationship committed to tribal self-determinations, tribal autonomy, nation-building, and long-term goal of maximizing local tribal control, informed by tribal customs and traditions.

"Indian Nations had always been considered as distinct, independent political communities, retaining their original natural rights, as the undisputed possessors of the soil... The very term "nation" so generally applied to them means 'a people distinct from others." - Chief Justice Marshall, United States Supreme Court

(Source: National Congress of American Indians)



Sovereignty, Advocacy, and Activism (2)

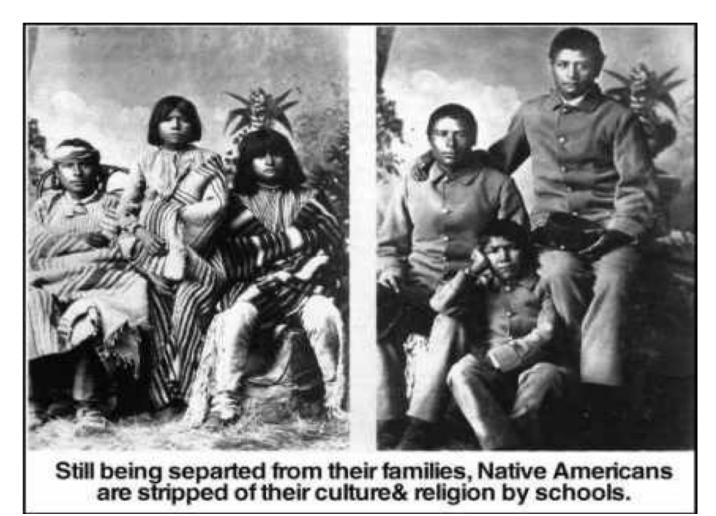
Self-government is essential if tribal communities are to continue to protect their unique cultures and identities.

However, there are several obstacles to tribal self-governance based on three thematic areas that have been identified in recent years: (1) outmoded bureaucratic processes; (2) lack of federal agency coordination; and, (3) regulations and laws that prevent tribal governments from equitable access to federal programs on par with state and local governments.



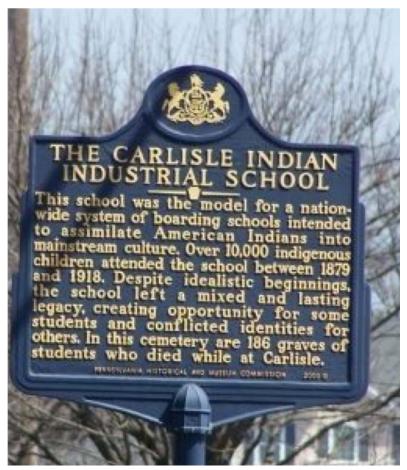
(Source: National Congress of American Indians)

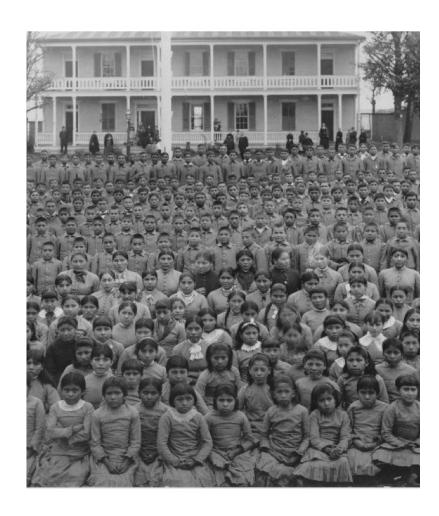
Storytelling: Boarding School Survival



The National
RESOURCE CENTER
for REACHING VICTIMS

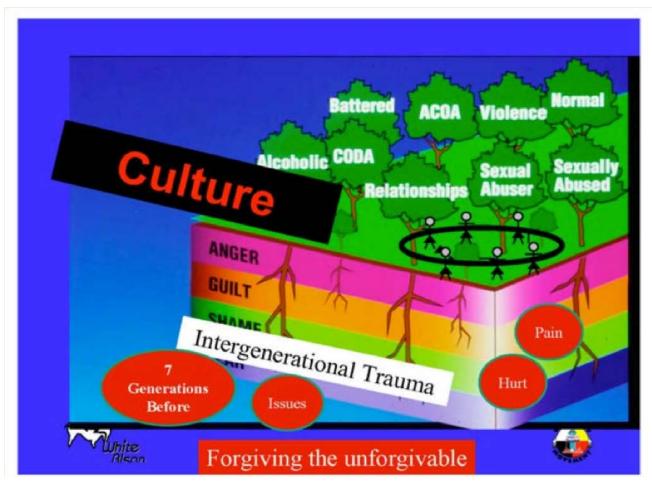
Carlisle Indian Industrial School







Storytelling: Intergenerational Boarding School Survival and Roots





Source: White Bison, Wellbriety Training at Carlisle Indian Industrial School.

Indigenous Generations and Change



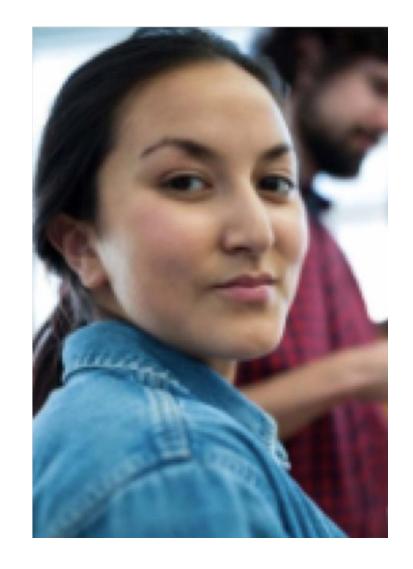


The Grandmother





The Mother





The Auntie





The Niece





Wellness Moment & Check-in



The Cousin





The Daughter





The Friend





Identities, Emerging Issues, and Stereotypes





20



Everyday Modern Intersections









The Next Generation





Helping those who help others

How To Use These Guiding Principles

- Connections across generations come from storytelling.
 Connections across cultures can also come from storytelling.
- Survivor stories have offered incredible contributions impacting the work to end domestic and sexual violence (education, intervention, prevention, policy, and program/services).
- Collaboration between underserved victims and survivors of crime can broaden and deepen our ability to work to end violence across our communities.
- Space for respectful understanding (each individual story is as unique as a human fingerprint).



What does this all mean to our work?

What can Native, non-Native, and Mixed Natives do to weave a stronger movement for underserved victims/survivors?

And as always, how do we practice healthy allyship and wellness in work that is very difficult and often painful?



Closing Remarks



Thank you for sharing your time with me.

Rebecca Balog:

HybridLoveStories@gmail.com



Grant Information

This project is supported by the Vera Institute of Justice and was produced with funding from grant award #2016-XVGXK015, awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this virtual training are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.