This study analyzes how tribes are asserting their authority over child welfare and what lessons can be learned from enacted child welfare codes.

• Researchers reviewed 107 tribal child welfare codes.
• Codes come from tribes in every BIA service region (including Alaska).
• Indigenous nation populations in our sample ranged from fewer than 50 to approximately 18,000 citizens.
• Almost half the codes reviewed were amended after 2000.
• Codes were retrieved from the National Indian Law Library collection and other on-line sources.

The study analyzed over 100 variables on eight child welfare topics: culture, jurisdiction, tribal-state relationships, child abuse reporting, paternity, foster care, termination of parental rights (TPR) and adoption.