



American Indian Children/Youth Mental Health

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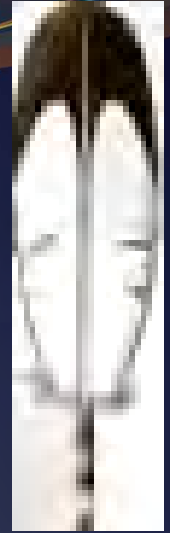


Presentation Objectives



- Consideration of Current Status
- History: How did we get here
- Future: What can work, what are Fools doomed to repeat





Current Status

- Psychopathology, Poverty, Substance Abuse, Trauma Victimization rates all higher than for any other group
- Obesity/Diabetes Higher
- Suicide rates from 1 – 4 times higher
- Educational Achievement Lower
- Incarcerations Higher





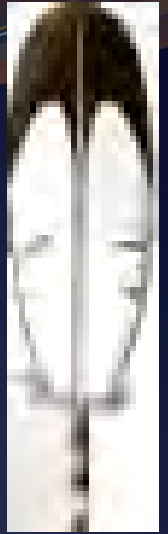
History – How did we get here

- Colonization and Intergenerational Trauma
- Separation of Children from Families
- Boarding School legacy + Poor Education
- Forced relocation – reservations – Govt. Dependence
- Imprisonment, Massacres
- Health Care disparities/discrepancies
- Ongoing Discrimination



PHOTOGRAPH BY U.S. ARMY SIGNAL CORPS
COURTESY OF THE ARIZONA HISTORICAL FOUNDATION





What Doesn't/Does Work

- Underfunding I.H.S./Tribal Health Programs
- Lack of Research & Training for AI Youth Issues
- Lack of Substance Abuse/Mental Health Facilities
- Lack of Community Programing for Youth
 - Boys & Girls Clubs, Youth Events, etc.





References

Gloppen, K., McMorris, B., Gower, A., & Eisenberg, M. (2018). Associations between bullying involvement, protective factors, and mental health among American Indian youth. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 88(4), 413–421

Gone, J. P., Trimble, J. E. (2012). American Indian and Alaska Native mental health: Diverse perspectives on enduring disparities. *Annual Review of Clinical Psychology*, 8, 131-160

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