

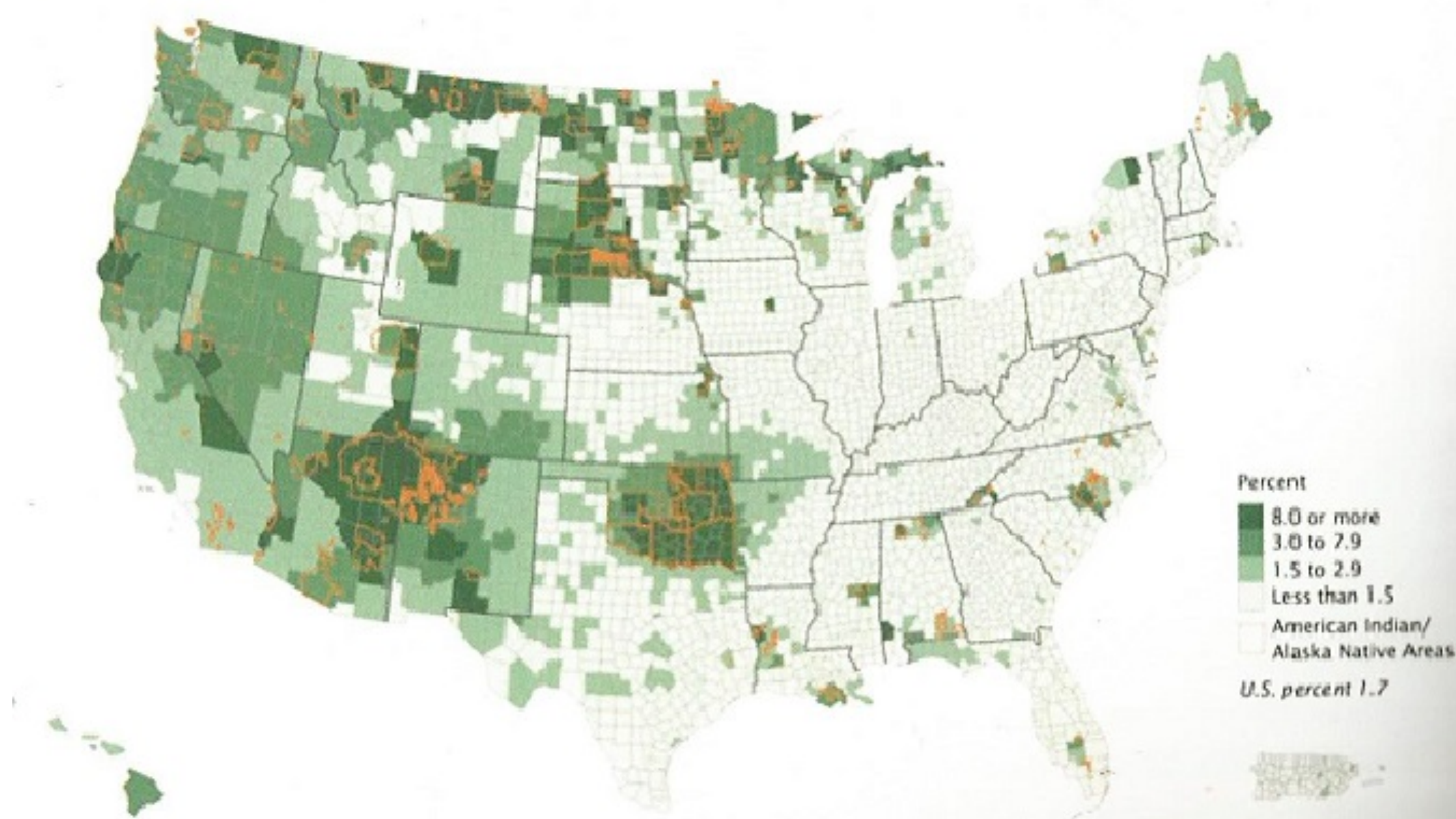
Hear the Drum Beat of Our
Native Students: Native
Americans in Our Schools

White House Initiative and NSBA Native American Caucus

- Bullying
- Discipline
- Mascots

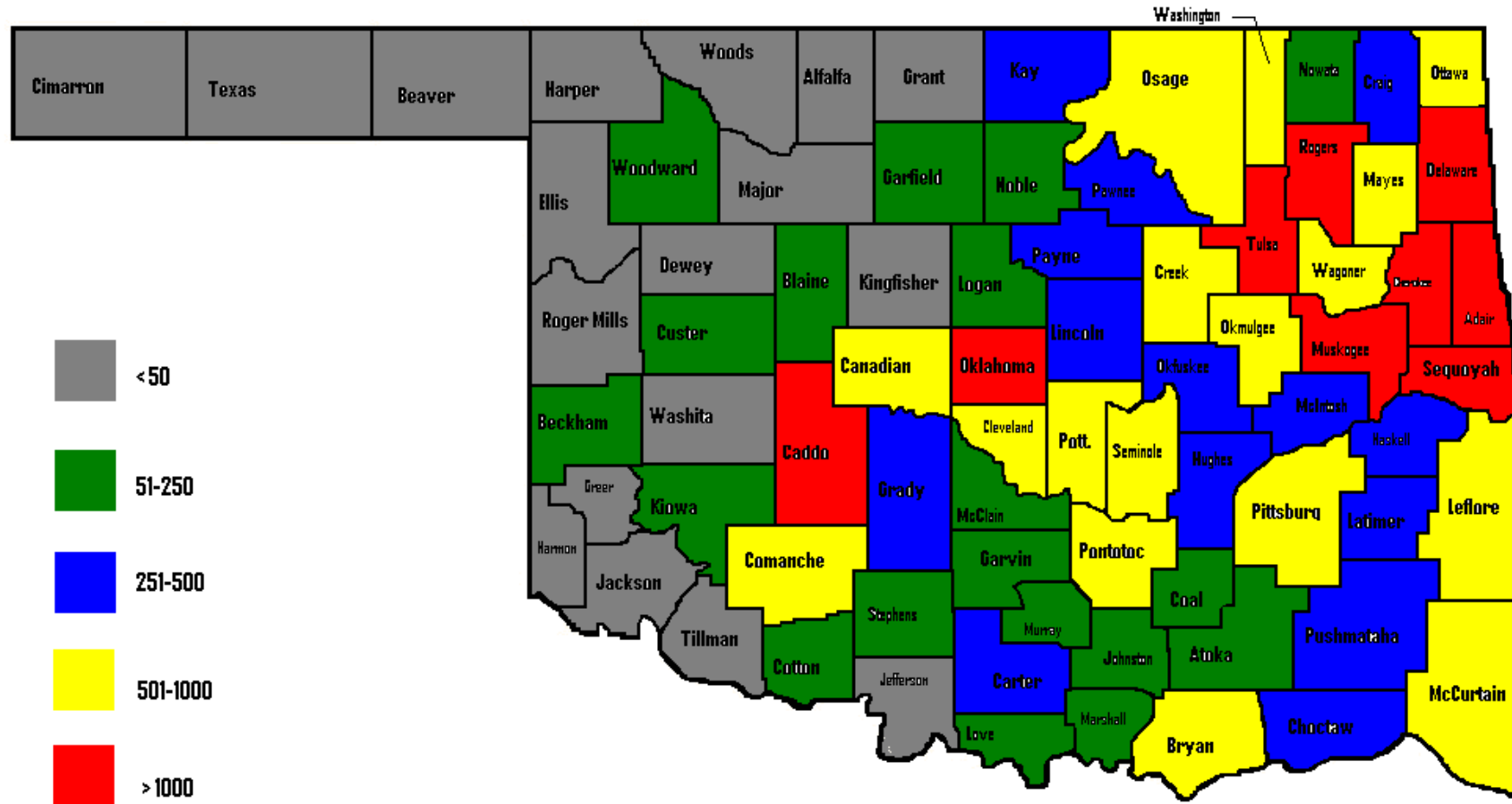
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BEYOND RESERVATION LANDS



- Only California has more Native Americans than Oklahoma among states.
- Oklahoma in the 2010 census had 482,760; our total population is about 3.7 million, so one in every seven Oklahomans.

Where are Native Youth? From OU study



Minnesota Study 2013

- Verbally Threatened among Racial Groups
 - American Indian 29.9%
 - African Americans 25.1%
 - Asian 15.7%
 - Latino 21.1%
 - White 18.4%

Minnesota 2013

- Physical Violence among Racial Groups
 - American Indian 49.0%
 - African Americans 41.4%
 - Asian 37.7%
 - Latino 42.4%
 - White 39.4%

Minnesota 2013

- Verbal or Physical Threatened by Gender for Native Americans

	• Verbal Threats	Physical Violence
• Girls	25.6%	44.1%
• Boys	33.5%	53.1%



Discipline, from Science Daily Utah study 2015

- Percent of Students Referred to Law Enforcement

- Native Asian Hisp Black White Pac Islan 2 races all of color

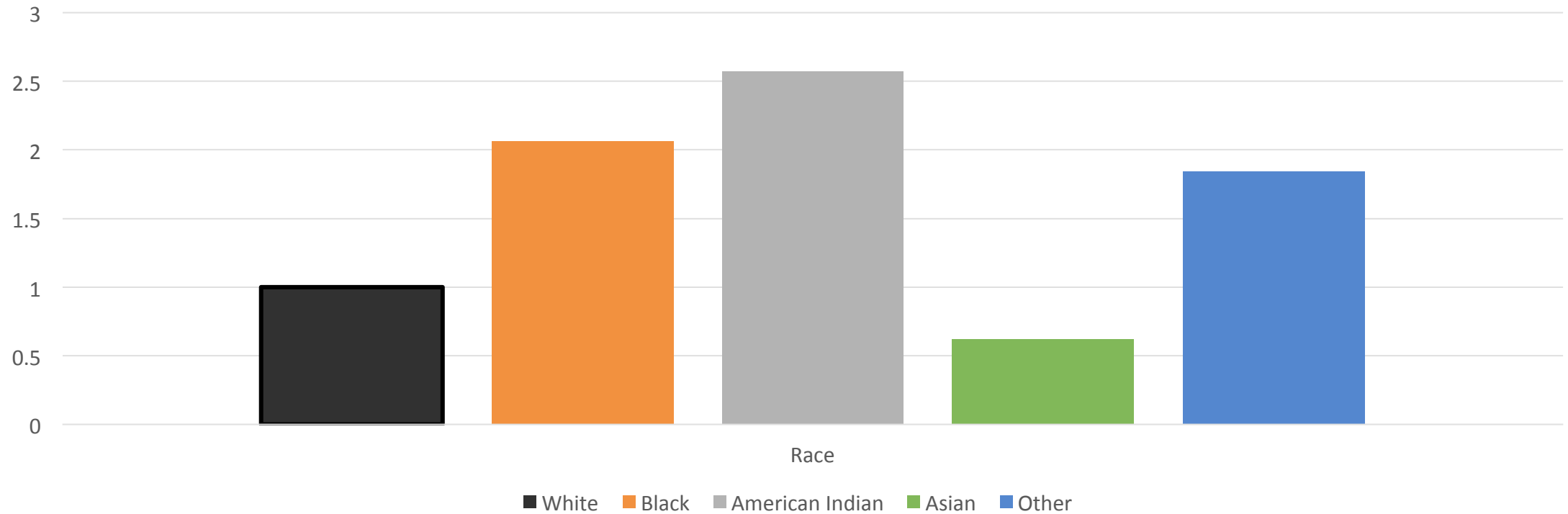
3%			2%				
		1%			1%	1%	1%
	0.5%			0.5%			

Utah Study

- In 2011 55 American Indian students in KINDERGARTEN were referred to law enforcement!
- No white students were.

From OU study pketchum@ou.edu

Figure 02. Odds of Arrest for Race Groups Compared to Whites for the State of Oklahoma



- “The Impact of Racial Bias on American Indian Youth in Oklahoma” found no differences in parental interaction and care from other racial groups.
- It concluded that officials’ attitudes and treatment were the causes of different treatment.

Suspensions Nationally

- Native American boys are suspended **twice** as often as white boys.
- Native American girls are suspended **three times** as often as white girls.
 - --Chronicle of Higher Education Aug 5, 2016, p. 24

Any discipline correlates with
failure to complete high
school.

Mascots

- Webster's definition: "A person, animal, or object adopted by a group as a symbolic figure, esp. To bring them good luck."
- From French and Provençal derived from masca 'witch'!





**I'M NOT
YOUR
MASCOT
ANYMORE**

CAN YOU IMAGINE?

AUTH

THE CLEVELAND
Indians

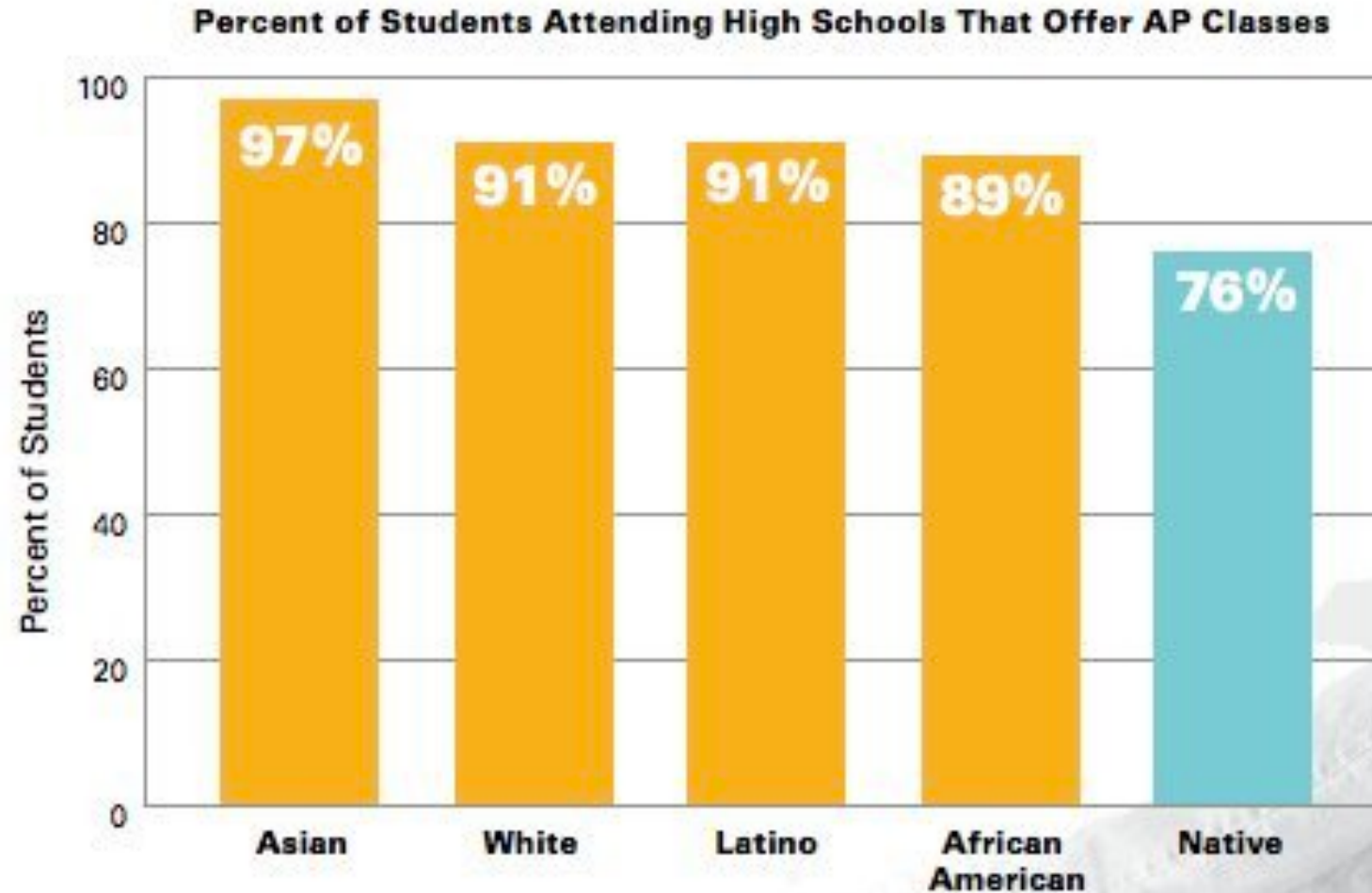




- According to Department of Justice analysis, “American Indians are more likely than people of other races to experience violence at the hands of someone of a different race.” In Fryberg’s study, findings show that Native stereotypes lead to a boost in self-esteem for non-Natives, specifically European Americans; “American Indian social representations were associated with lower self-esteem for American Indians and higher self-esteem for European Americans.”

- National Congress of American Indians, “Harmful ‘Indian’ Sports Mascots”
October 2013

Access: National Statistics



*High schools were considered to offer AP courses if at least one student took an AP exam in 2009–10

Whoever controls the
education of our children
controls our future.

--Wilma Mankiller, Chief of the Cherokee Nation, 1985-1995

What Can We Do?

- Ask questions
- Encourage anti-bullying programs
- Especially ones focusing on Native Americans, especially boys, especially in Middle School

References

- Science Daily May 22, 2015: U of Utah study
- Indian Country Today Media Network.com 5/30/2011: programs
- Journal of Indigenous Social Development 2:1 (2013): Bullying
- Mascots: National Congress of American Indians, “Harmful ‘Indian’ Sports Mascots” October 2013
- Native Nations and American Schools. NIEA.org
- School Environment Listening Session. U.S. Department of Education, White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education, 2015
- College of Liberal Studies, OU, on Racial Bias, pketchum@ou.edu
- The Chronicle of Higher Education August 5, 2016

With thanks to:

- Lucyann Harjo, Director of Indian Education, Norman Public Schools
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Thanks for Worrying About This!

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