

Dear Mr. President

The Native American way of life has changed massively over the last 500 years. The Native American population has changed because of several factors.

Since The Battle Of Little Big Horn the Native American way of life has declined severely within society. This is because after The Battle of Wounded Knee the rest of the Native Americans fled onto the reservations. Many children and teenagers were taken to American boarding schools so that they could be taught how to act like the rest of American society. At these boarding schools they were not allowed to practise their Native American traditions.

After their stay at these boarding schools many of these students were not accepted in American society and they couldn't go back to their Native American roots they were isolated from the rest of society. Those who stayed on their reservations were treated badly and most of them had already long given up on the revival of the golden age of the Native Americans. Because of this a lot of their old traditional cultures were dropped.

In 1924 they were officially allowed the right to vote by US law. However many Native Americans still faced prejudice when they tried to fit in with the rest of society and were still quite isolated from everyone else. More and more Native American started to drop their cultures.

Life for the Native Americans was not easy. Many were not aware of the advantages of American city life and continued their hard lives. Many lived very poor lives and struggles everyday .Studies show that four out of ten adults on the reservations were unemployed. They were also exposed to many diseases and mental health issues. Most areas are without hospitals and if you're lucky you might have a small start up business med bay for those that are sick. However this does little to help and studies show Native Americans are 80% more likely to die from tuberculosis. They are also 82% more likely to die from suicide because of the growing mental health problems in these reservations .Infant death rates are also 60% higher when compared to White Americans.

These figures have tempted many Native Americans to forget their past and lead a new life in American society. Today there are 565 known tribes in America. In the US today 3.08 million people identify as Native American. Compared to the estimated high of 18 million peoples in the ages before Columbus.I think the Native American culture should be respected in the US because after all they are just other people.

I think schools in the US should learn more about the Native American way of life before all the settlers came and their traditions. They should also learn more about the horrors that the Native Americans had to face. The Native Americans are extremely brave for continuing their cultures even after everything they faced.

Yours sincerely

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