

## Listening to Our Indigenous Brothers and Sisters

Today we continue our Listening Lessons with a focus on our Indigenous siblings. During the class, we will discuss some of the assigned short videos and readings and also watch and discuss a video of several young Indigenous persons talking about their challenges in today's American society.

### **Goal**

To learn more about what it is like to be a person of color in today's America, with a focus on Indigenous people.

### **Class Assignments**

- **Imagining the Indian, the Fight Against Native American Mascoting.** (3:56 min) The Ciesla Foundation, Jun 6, 2020. This official trailer of a film in production by the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation examines Indigenous stereotypes, particularly in sports teams. <https://youtu.be/tA1K3jMIwIA>
- **How Hollywood Stereotyped Native Americans.** (5:21 min) Frames in Motion, Oct 31, 2007. Film footage we will all recognize, portraying "Indians" as blood-thirsty savages. <https://youtu.be/hJFi7SRH7Q>
- **Indigenous in Plain Sight.** (13:21 min) TEDxBoulder, Jun 26, 2018. A talk by artist and activist Gregg Deal, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. His work deals with Indigenous identity and stereotypes with historical consideration. <https://youtu.be/s3FL9uhTH>
- **America is a stolen country.** (5:13 min) BBC, Jan 2, 2015. Alcoholism, unemployment, and suicide are problems associated with Native American reservations in the US. But a new generation of young activists are dedicating themselves to a brighter future. Benjamin Zand from the BBC's Pop-Up team is on a reservation in South Dakota. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SM8WZ0ztMuc>
- **Racism is a Two-way Street.** Notes from Indian Country, Indianz.com, June 29, 2020. Journalist Tim Giago, Oglala Lakota Tribe, writes about how individuals of mixed blood were maligned on the reservations. <https://www.indianz.com/News/2020/06/29/tim-giago-racism-is-a-twoway-street.asp>
- **7 things you should never say to a Native American.** Insider, Jan 9, 2020. Short article by Benny Wayne Sully, Sicangu Lakota Tribe <https://www.insider.com/native-american-offensive-racist-things-2020-1>
- **PBS American Portrait Collection.** This site contains a number of links to stories shared by Native Americans from across the U.S. and is part of a docuseries shown by various PBS stations. <https://www.pbs.org/american-portrait/collection/103/i-will-speak-at-any-opportunity-i-can->

- **I Hated Tonto (Still Do).** *Los Angeles Times*, Jun 28, 1998. An essay by Sherman Alexie, Spokane Tribe <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1998-jun-28-ca-64216-story.html>
- **1989 - American Indian Activist Russell Means testifies at Senate Hearing.** C-Span Video Library. If you are interested in learning more about the history of governance on tribal lands this U.S. Senate testimony by Russell Mean, Oglala Lakota, is educational. Means, who died in 2012 was a co-founder of the American Indian Movement and a life-long activist. He is especially harsh in his criticism of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and tribal governments. <https://youtu.be/xVANRroxuOo>