**Native Americans and Oppression**

If you go into a group of people and ask them if they know that Native Americans are struggling, the majority of them will say no. Native Americans have been in this country since before Columbus discovered the Americas. Ever since, the Native Americans have been mistreated, and lied to in an unfair way. Native Americans have been dealing with oppression for a long time and many people do not realize that, they need help and many people do not do anything to support. People need to be informed of what the Native Americans have been struggling with in order for them to take some action and try to make a change for the Native Americans.

The social justice issue that I studied was about the Native Americans, and how they are still dealing with oppression. When the white men were taking over the lands of the Native Americans, the Native Americans were separated and put on reservations. Today those reservations still exist but the Natives are living under poor conditions. “Most reservations and Indian communities are as poor as, or below, the level of the third world/global south countries” (“Revolutionary Frontlines”). Many people are ignoring the Native Americans, even though they see that the Natives need help. Since most of the Native Americans are as poor as the south countries, there is more reason for us to turn over and try to stop their struggles. This was really surprising to me, because it seems that people do not care for the Native Americans. This was something I did not know before doing this project. Since the Native Americans lack of resources, they don’t get the same benefits as other people. Many Native Americans die faster than the average Americans. “Many Native Americans tend to die faster, because of their lack of nutrients” (Members tripod). Since the Native Americans don’t have enough healthy diets, many of them will die at a young age. Something that people could try to do is donate some food to them, so they are able to live a healthy, longer life.

This issue mostly affects Native Americans, because they are the ones that have to deal with poor conditions and oppression. Many people have been stereotyping the Natives, but they don’t realize how hard their conditions are. “Today Native Americans are stereotyped as lazy and drunks who are out of control” (Members Tripod). These stereotypes are caused by people who are so ignorant and can’t see what the Native Americans are going through. Instead of trying to make stereotypes, what people should do is aid Native Americans. Native Americans are personally affected by this, most of the Native Americans get drunk in order to forget the misery that they are going through, and they can’t get jobs because their unemployment rate is really high. I do think people should care about this issue, because Native Americans have been ignored for a long time. Native Americans need our support and their oppression has to stop now.

After I did all of my research on Native Americans I found out that many of them are still living under poor conditions, and are still being ignored. There are many steps that I could take in order to help Native Americans. One of those steps is to inform people. We could also try and help out

**Inform**

**www.spotlight onpoverty.com**

1. <http://www.spotlightonpoverty.org/ExclusiveCommentary.aspx?id=0fe5c04e-fdbf-4718-980c-0373ba823da7>

www.forbes.com

1. http://www.forbes.com/fdc/welcome\_mjx.shtml

**To help out**

**www.culturalsurvival.com**

1. <http://www.culturalsurvival.org/programs/elc/program>

In conclusion, Native Americans have been struggling far too long. Today Native Americans need our aid and support. There is no more room for oppression, they need our help and we should try to do everything we can in order to help them. One of the very first steps to turn our eyes on the Native Americans is by getting informed; most people need to get informed before they start making judgments.