

MY TRUTHS

- We are body, mind, emotion and spirit
- Wellness=harmony with body, mind & spirit
- All illness effects mind and spirit as well as body
- Most illness & "dis-eases" are unresolved emotions
- We need to take care of self, <u>first</u> to take care of others
- We need to take responsibility for our own wellness.
- We have the power within to heal ourselves

OTHER BELIEFS

- We are not whole
- We need help from outside
- A "you fix me" policy
- We believe "I am powerless to heal or help myself"
- With this attitude we give our power away
- Our pain is so complex we need a complex answer



TEACHINGS FROM RESPECTED INDIGENOUS ELDERS

Caren Trujillo, Wellness Consultant

From the Creator, the Great Spirit, there came a great unifying life force that flowed in and through all things the flowers of the plains, blowing winds, rocks, trees, birds, animals and was the same force that had breathed into the first man. Thus all things were kindred, and were brought together by the same great Mystery... **Chief Luther Sanding Bear, Sioux**



The Creator made the Earth to support life so that life would continue to reproduce, everything would support one another and future generations would have the same benefits of supply and beauty as the generations that have proceeded them...

Don Coyhis, Mohawk

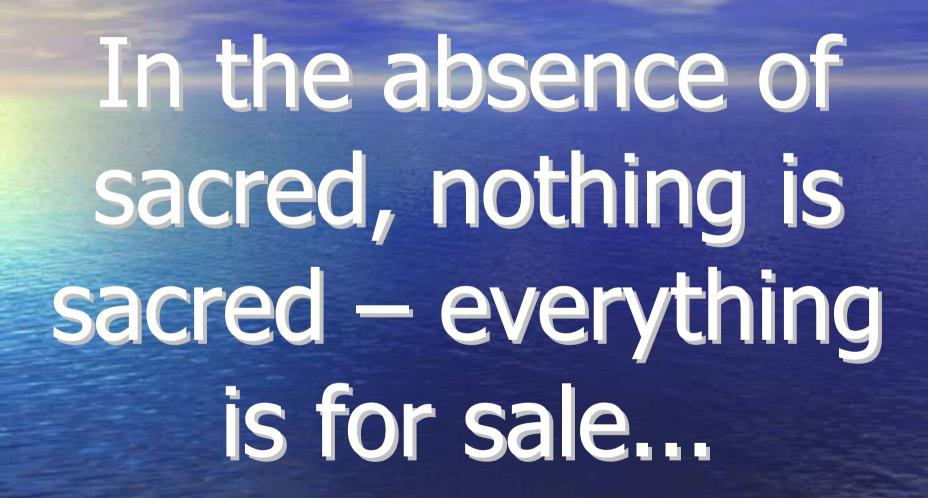
In the Indian way, we are connected to that flower if we understand its spirit, the essence of its life...

Larry P Aitken, Chippewa

Every thing or living being that exist in this would, be it trees, flowers, birds, grasses, rocks, soil of the earth or human beings, has its unique manner that makes it what it is. That is what is meant by connectedness...

Larry P. Aitken, Chippewa





Oren Lyons, Onondaga

The land is a sacred trust held in common for the benefit of the future of our Nations...

Hada Gwaii

The ground on which we stand is sacred ground. It is the dust of our ancestors...

Plenty Coups, Crow

Every part of this soil is sacred in the estimations of my people. Every hillside, every valley, every plain and grove, has been hallowed by some sad or happy event in days long vanished.

Chief Sealth, Duwamish

When people live far from the scenes of the Great Spirits makings, its easy for them to forget His laws...

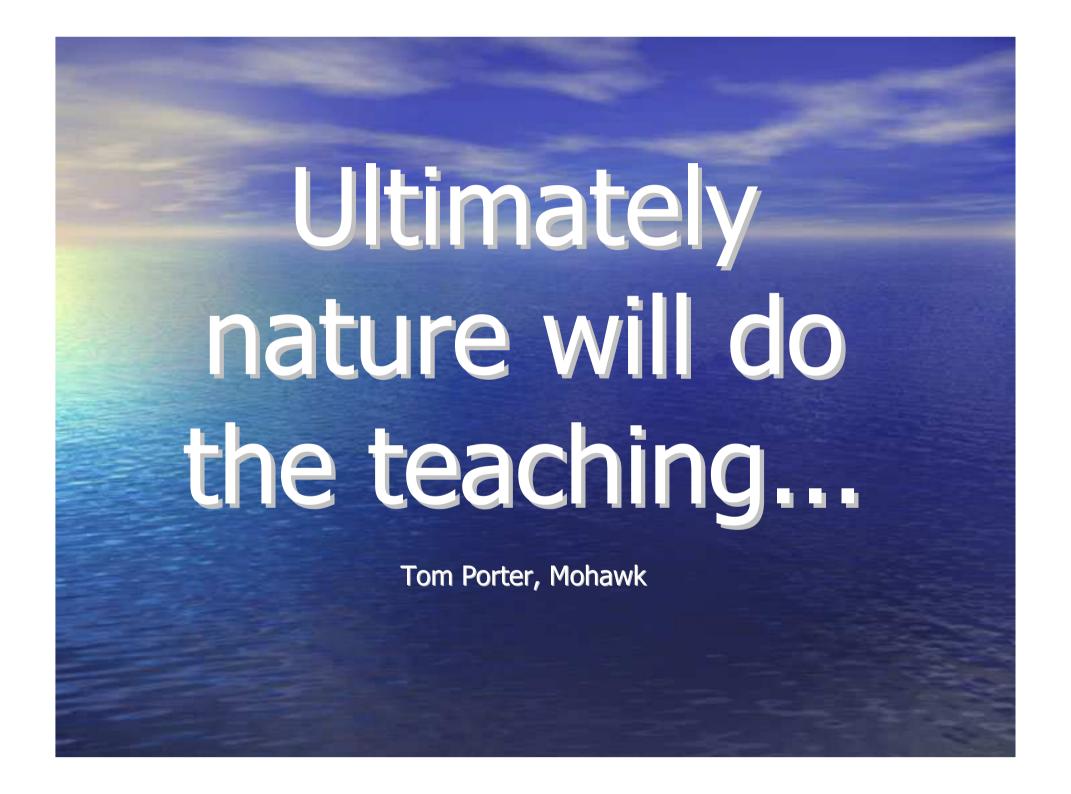
Walking Buffalo, Stoney

Lots of people hardly, ever feel real soil under their feet, see plants grow except in flower pots, or get far enough to catch the enchantment if a midnight sky studded with stars. When people live far from scenes of the Great Spirit's makings, it is easy for them to forget His laws...

Tantanga Many, Stoney

We grieve more because we have been disconnected from our earth, our first Mother, our spiritual Mother...

Larry P. Aiken, Chippewa



Nature is the greatest university when we want to learn about balance, harmony, the natural laws and how to live life...

Don Coyhis, Mohawk

But the Great Spirit has provided you and me with an opportunity for study in nature's university, the forest, the rivers, the mountains, and the animals which include us...

Walking Buffalo, Stoney

No matter what we do, nature will have the last say. Nature is the teacher, we are the students. May we honor and respect our teacher...

Don Coyhis, Mohawk

We have a biological father and mother, but our real Father is the Creator and our real Mother is the earth...

Wallace Black Elk, Lakota

Natural Law is a spiritual law. It s powers are both light and dark...

Oren Lyons, Onondaga

Spiritual law is the same...it has light and dark...both are good so both need to be honored. Lessons can be learned from both sides...

Don Coyhis, Mohican

The Natural Law will prevail regardless of man-made laws, tribunals and governments...

Traditional Circle of Elders

With children we always have to think about seven generations to come but yet unborn...

Janice Sundown Hattet, Senica

If we poison the Earth, we poison ourselves. If we poison the Water of the Earth, we poison ourselves. As we do to the Earth, we do to ourselves, our children, even the children unborn.

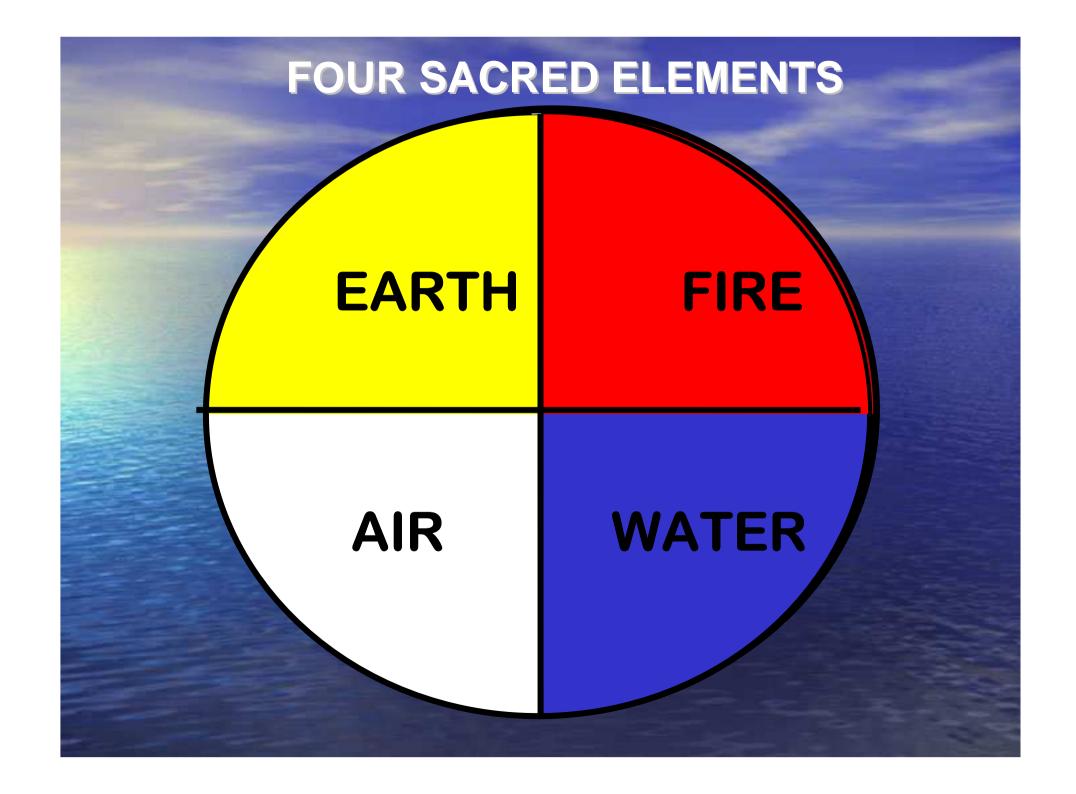
Don Coyhis, Mohawk

I can tell you that understanding begins with love and respect. It begins with respect for the Great Spirit...All things – and I mean all things - have their own will and their own way and their own purpose; this is what is to be respected...

Rolling Thunder, Cherokee

And there are the four concerns of the earth that we talk about, the Four Colors of people and the Four Winds. You see the winds — they are spirits...

William Commanda, Algonquin



People say that crisis changes people and turns ordinary people into wiser or more responsible ones...

Wilma Man Killer, Cherokee

We all must become care takers of the earth...

Haida Gwaii

We need to consider our actions out of respect for the mother earth...

Don Coyhis

We are responsible for the conditions of the earth. We are the ones who are responsible and we can change that. If we wake up, it is possible to change the energy. It is possible to change everything...

Hunbatz Men, Mayan

If we want the environment to change, each individual must change their mental picture. "as within, so without"

Don Coyhis, Mohawk

But we have to stick by the wisdom of our ancestors...

Paula Weasel Head, Blood

Scientist are finally realizing what the elders have taught for thousands of years everything is interconnected, whatever you do to any one thing, you do to everything. If you poison any part of the earth, the poison eventually effects everything else. If you poison the plants, the birds will eat the plants, which poisons the birds. The birds are eaten by humans which poison the humans. We must learn to live in harmony with the earth...

Don Coyhis, Mohawk

My grandfather survived on this earth without using anything that did not go back into the earth. The whole world could learn from that...

Floyd Westerman, Sioux

Search for the truth. Indian values teach the holistic approach to the use of technology for mankind's good...

Al Qoyawayma, Hopi

Together we can end the Holocaust against the environment...

Haida Gwaii

Hear me! A single twig breaks, but the bundle of twigs are strong... Tecumseh, Shawnee

We're sitting on our blessed Mother Earth from which we get our strength and determination, love and humility - all the beautiful attributes that we've been given. So turn to one another; love one another, respect one another; respect Mother Earth, respect the waters - because that itself is life...

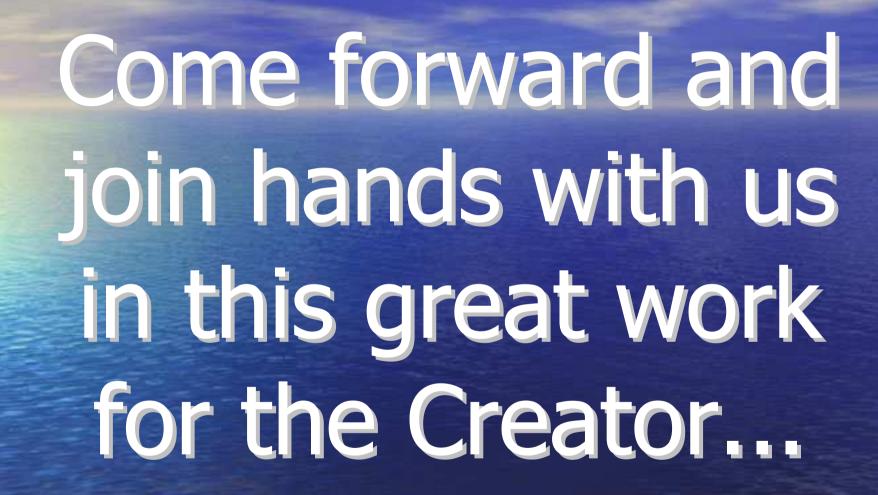
Phil Lane Sr. Yankton Sioux

Peace...comes withing the souls of men when they realize their relationship, their oneness, with the universe and all its powers, and when they realize that at the center of the Universe dwells the Creator, and that this center is really everywhere, it is within each of us...

Black Elk, Oglala Sioux

So don't be afraid. What we left behind, leave it back there. Try to do something good. Lets try to take a step, try to think something good...

Wallace Black Elk, Lakota



Traditional Circle of Elders

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