

**Tom Stillday, Red Lake Ojibwe, Minnesota, speaks about the language, teachings, values and continuing traditional ways.**

Identity, you see, identity. That you're different from other persons. You might have, you know, the same color of skin -- I'll use Sioux, you know -- but their language is different. When he speaks his language, and my language, way different. But (we're) the same color. But it tells you your identity. Just like you people here. Your skin is the same, but your nationalities aren't. Now, if you go back to your culture, you know, your roots, it's different -- like me and the Sioux. Sure. Just like the (???) people, they have their own identity. All the oriental people, they speak different languages. They're not all the same.

It's like the nations. There are seven nation tribes, Blackfeet in Montana ... and they have North Dakota ... Ojibwe and then Panama(?) Indians. This Ojibwe nation. They say the Navaho is the largest of all tribes. I guess they are credited (with that), but I tell you Ojibwe nation -- that comes from New York, Quebec, Ontario, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota and then Manitoba and Saskatchewan. How big they are -- the second-largest nation.

See, dialects. It's the way you would describe something. The word, you know. Like Red Lake will say one thing, Leech Lake will say another thing, but it has the same meaning. I'll give you an instance. A horse. We say a four-legged hoofed animal, bebezhigooganzhii, so Leech Lake will say horse (???). That's where there is a little confusion, especially for kids. When you teach, they are in different parts of the country, you know. When they get together, they all mean the same thing.