

From the union of the Four Sacred Elements and his breath, man was created.

It is said the Gitchie Manito then lowered man to the Earth. Thus, man was the last form of life

to be placed on the Earth. From this Original Man came the A-nish-i-na'-be people.

In the Ojibway language if you break down the word Anishinabe, this is what it means:

ANI

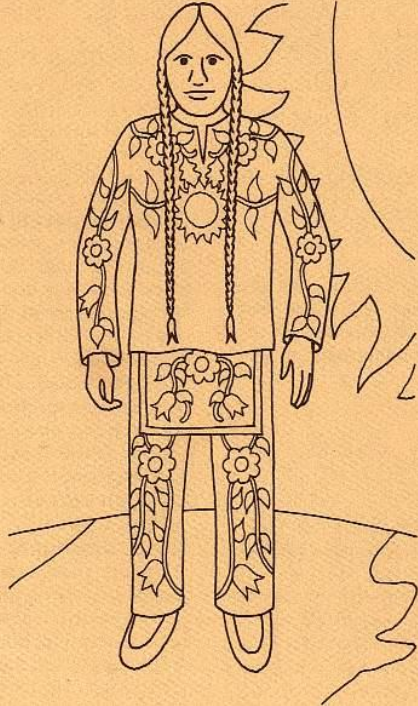
FROM WHENCE

NISHINA

LOWERED

ABE

THE MALE OF THE SPECIES



Decolonizing Tobacco for the Health of It

by Clinton Isham

Benton-Banai, Edward, 1934-. The Mishomis Book : the Voice of the Ojibway. [St. Paul, Minn.] :[Indian Country Press], 1979.

Examples of Other Alterations

- Symbols
- Ideals/ beliefs
- Foods
- Tobacco
- Cultural Appropriation



Of Warrior Chiefs and Indian Princesses: The Psychological Consequences of American Indian Mascots, Stephanie Fryberg University of Arizona, 2008



'Proud to Be' video by the National Congress of American Indians

Transformation of Tobacco

- Original/ Indian tobacco
- Commercialization
- Tribal transformation
- Health Impacts
- What can we do:
decolonize tobacco



Spiritual Medicines



Origin of Tobacco



"When you pray with this pipe, you pray for and with everything." -Black Elk



Nauando dauan las cañas de bu

Struthers, R. (2004). Sacred Tobacco Use in Ojibwe Communities. *Journal of Holistic Nursing*

Traditional Tobacco

Original/Intended Use-

- Comes from our stories
- Endemic species
- Not to be bought or sold
- By itself (asema) or Mixed (kinnickinick)
- Not used recreationally



Nicotiana rustica

Modifying Tobacco

Cultural appropriation

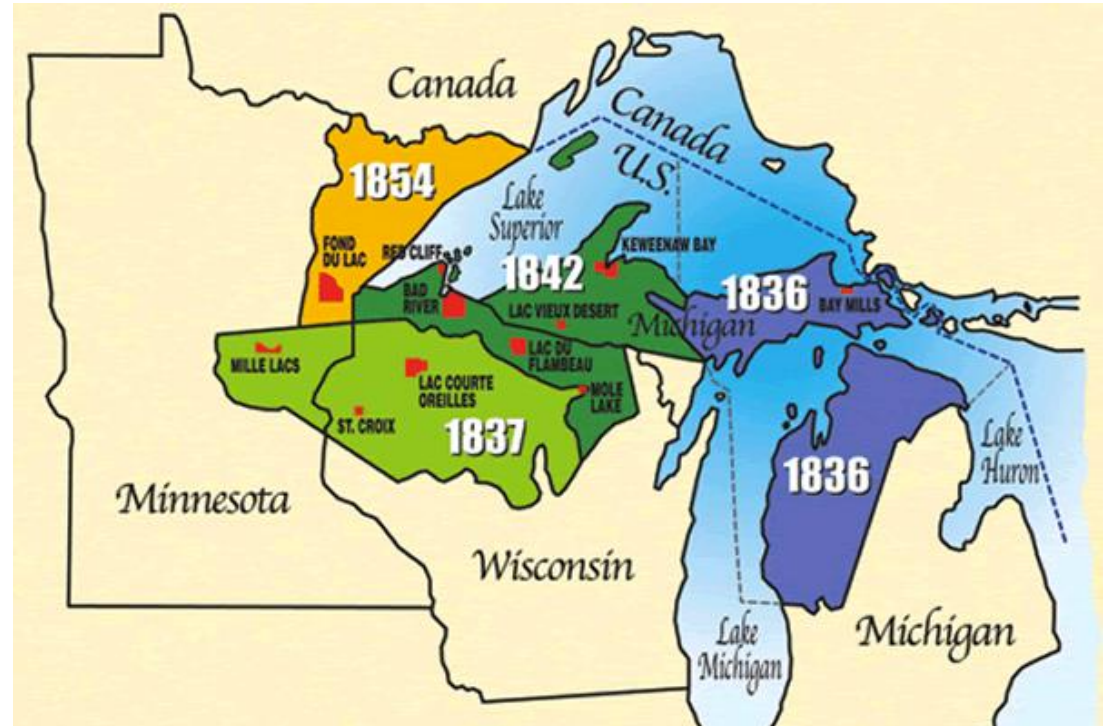
- Used as substitute
- Addictive
- Harmful when abused
- Recreational
- Favored mass production, addiction and trade



Nicotiana tabacum

Land, Family, & Religion Alteration

- Land loss and boarding schools
- Native American Religious Freedom Act in 1978
- Treaty rations
- Big tobacco targets casinos, powwow, rodeo, and cultural events



Impact on Health

- US Adult Smoking Rate **14%** (CDC, 2017)
- AI/AN Adult Smoking Rate **24%** (CDC, 2017)
 - Cancer is the leading cause of death
 - Lung cancer is most common
- Data on AI/AN population varies
 - Clearway in MN- **+50%**
 - Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System WI - **37%**

https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/index.htm

<http://clearwaymn.org/tribal-tobacco-use-survey-2013/>

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/news/releases/112718.htm>

What Can We Do?

Collaborate with and directly fund Native American tobacco organizations

1. Alteration of conventional successes
2. Support Smoke-free Casinos
3. Data collection
4. Strengthen Tribal Policies
5. Community Outreach and Education



Support Smoke-free Casinos

- *Gambling with our Health*, 2014
- 2015 HCGM goes smoke-free
- APHA *Honor our Tobacco Video*
- Currently 8/460 Tribal Casinos are SF
- 3-year HCGM Event



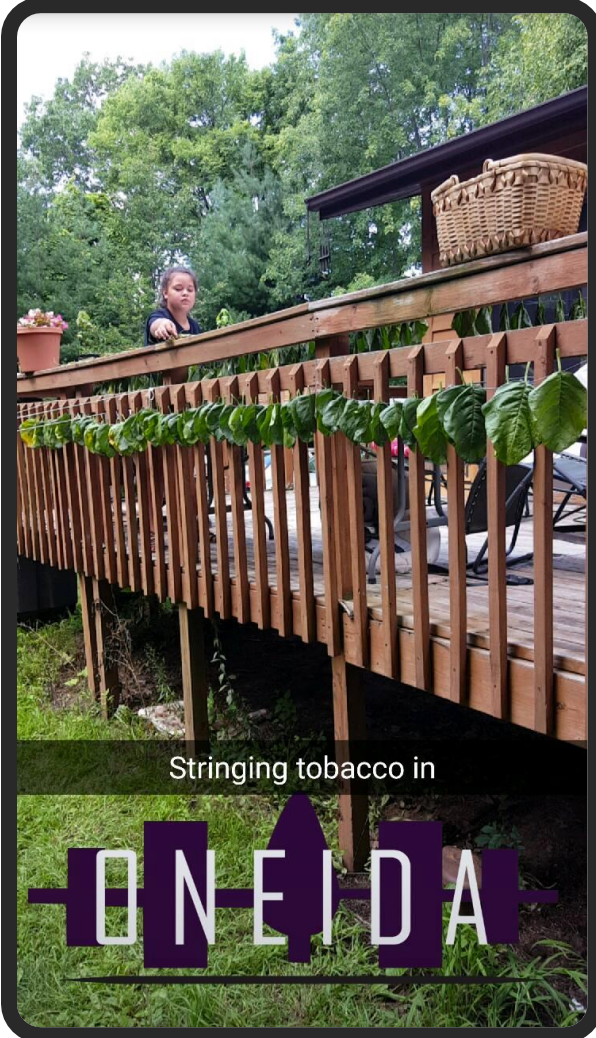
Strengthen Tribal Policies

- State smoke-free laws
- Waaswaaganing Living Arts & Culture Center
 - Talking points and buckets
- 2018 HUD SF rule
 - tribal homes exempt



Community Outreach/ Education





Stringing tobacco in



Do You Know the Difference?

<p>COMMERCIAL TOBACCO IS A KILLER</p> <p>CANCER</p> <p>STROKE</p> <p>HEART DISEASE</p> <p>EMPHYSEMA</p> <p>IMPOTENCE</p> <p>INFERTILITY</p> <p>DEATH</p>		<p>TRADITIONAL TOBACCO IS A HEALER</p> <p>WISDOM</p> <p>LOVE</p> <p>RESPECT</p> <p>BRAVERY</p> <p>HONESTY</p> <p>HUMILITY</p> <p>TRUTH</p>
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“Traditional Tobacco is a gift that was given to Aboriginal people by the Creator and it has a spiritual place within our communities. When Tobacco is burned the smoke rises, which provides a link to all the spirits beyond the sky. Tobacco in its original form had both honour and purpose. Traditional Tobacco did not contain all the chemicals that are now put into it. What is sold today has been tampered with for business and profit, taking away from its purpose.” – ERNIE BENEDICT, ELDER, IROQUOIS NATION





An anti-tobacco advertisement. On the right side, a young girl with dark hair in two braids is wearing a red dress with white cat face patterns. She has a serious expression. The background is a blurred crowd of people. In the center, the text "VALUE OUR TRADITION." is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a thin white underline. Below it, "KEEP TOBACCO SACRED." is written in a similar font, with "KEEP" in white and "TOBACCO SACRED." in red. At the bottom, a blue horizontal bar contains the "QUITPLAN" logo (a stylized white bird) and the text "QUITPLAN | quitplan.com".

VALUE OUR TRADITION.

KEEP TOBACCO SACRED.

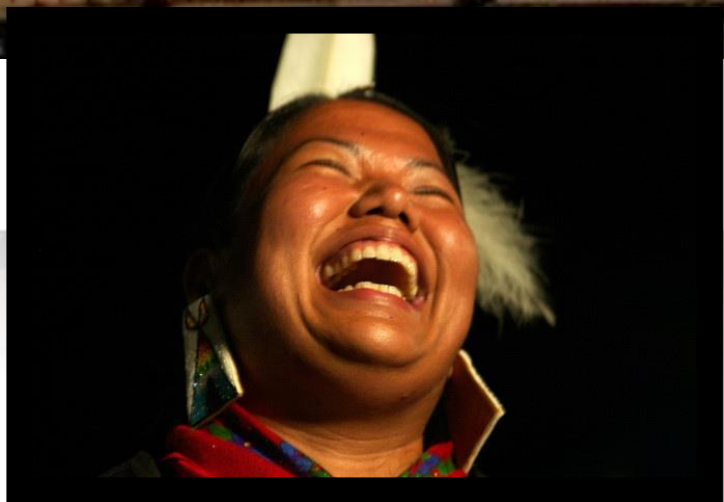
QUITPLAN | quitplan.com

WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

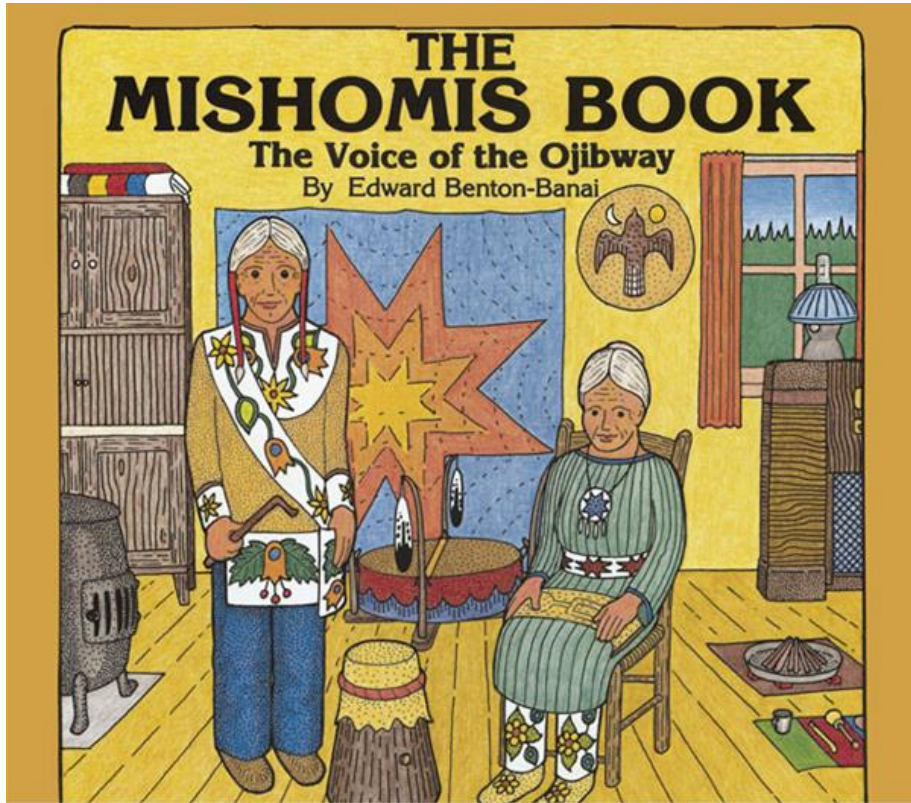


5 Million Deaths Each Year

WALDM



Preserving Tradition



What Can You Do?

Know the local tribal culture, sovereignty, and history

(add map)

Attend events in the tribe

Individual trainings and/or group trainings:

[WI DPI American Indian Summer Institute](#)

[Working Effectively with Tribal Governments](#)

Reframe your conceptions around tobacco and American

Indians

Decolonizing Tobacco



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