



Reasons ICWA Was Initiated

- Advocates called attention to the fact that state courts were removing a high proportion of Indian children from their families and tribes and placing them in non-Indian environments.
- In some states, as many as 25 to 35 percent of Indian children were being placed in foster care; 85 percent of those children were placed in non-Indian homes.
- There was a growing concern that these children were losing their Indian culture and heritage.
- The state court systems did not take into consideration the tribal relations of Indian people and the cultural and social standards of Indian communities.