

Sent this evening 9 pm PDT to [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

This letter was sent to many senators and cabinet members as well. Other psychological organizations used the letter as template for theirs.

October 27, 2016

Dear President Obama,

My name is Art Blume, and I am the president of the Society of Indian Psychologists, the organization that represents Native American psychologists in the US and Canada.

I am writing out of serious concern for what is happening to Native American people in North Dakota over the proposed pipeline that is encroaching on traditional and spiritually significant land to the Standing Rock people, as well as threatening the Missouri River and aquifer that serves not only the Native people in the area but many people throughout the midwest.

We are receiving reports from our friends and Society members that the authorities are beginning to use strong arm tactics against protesters and people are being injured. The events that are unfolding are reminiscent of the horrors that have followed our people historically. The unfolding events have the capacity to create great harm psychologically speaking.

I am appealing to you as a person of great character and conscience to use your office to intervene and tell the authorities on site to stand down and not provoke further conflict. In addition, would you please send department of justice people into the area to observe and make certain that civil rights are being protected? Finally, I would appeal for a moratorium on the building of the pipeline, with a thorough review of the grievances being raised by the first people of the Dakotas before construction resumes.

Thank you so very much for your time. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely yours,

Art

Art Blume, Ph.D. (Cherokee/Choctaw)  
President, Society of Indian Psychologists  
Professor, Clinical Psychology  
Washington State University  
Phone: [360-546-9414](tel:360-546-9414)

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Sent this evening to [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

November 18, 2016

Dear President Obama,

I contacted you recently as a Presidential Partner about Standing Rock, and appreciate what you did. Now I am asking you for something much bigger that requires significant cahones. But I feel you are in the correct position to do so. I am requesting that you apologize to Native Americans for the mistreatment of colonial activities including forced relocation, boarding school assimilation methods, and lack of religious freedom until 1978. Such an apology could change historic relationships between Native Americans and mainstream society. I would advocate for this strongly. And you might consider apologizing for slavery which impacted both Natives and African Americans, just a thought.

With utmost respect,

Art Blume, Ph.D. (Cherokee/Choctaw)  
President, Society of Indian Psychologists

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Sent this afternoon to [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

Numerous other letters from allies and members were sent

November 25, 2016

Dear President Obama,

I am writing again on behalf of the Sacred Stone Camps at the Standing Rock Reservation. As you likely know, the Corps of Engineers has made a decision to remove the camps as of December 5, land that originally belonged to the Standing Rock people. The action is reminiscent of the Seventh Cavalry actions of centuries past, and any action by the army will be encoded as such by Native people and their allies. I beg you as President of the Society of Indian Psychologists to intervene to protect the camps, immediately. History is watching!

With very best regards,

Art Blume, Ph.D. (Cherokee/Choctaw)  
President of the Society of Indian Psychologists

Please send your messages!