

Statements made by representatives of least endangered languages at the 1994 Native American Language Issues (NALI) conference held in Glorieta, New Mexico.

My first encounter of people making fun of me for speaking my language was my own Lakota people. The school made it worse. When you teach the language, teach the good and the bad of the language.

—Albert White Hat, Lakota

Christianity has had a devastating effect on our language. We need to talk to people who say they are Christians and do not want the language. We shouldn't say that. Speaking the Navajo language has nothing to do with believing in a different creator. We need people who can understand the elders, so we can learn from them and we need to help them.

—McQueen Redhouse, Navajo