# VIOLENCE AGAINST NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN BY SAMANTHA PREDDY

#### VIOLENCE AGAINST NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN IS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

- More than half experience sexual violence at some point during their lifetimes, and one out of three are raped.
- The FBI's National Crime Information Center reported 5,203 missing Indigenous girls and women in 2021 — disappearing at a rate equal to more than two and a half times their estimated share of the U.S. population.
- Indigenous women are **two times more likely** to be victims of rape compared to white women.

#### STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN

#### **RAISE AWARENESS TO PROMOTE CHANGE**



### AT A GLANCE

experience sexual violence

of rapes are perpetrated by non-Native men, but non-Native offenders are rarely prosecuted on tribal lands

Cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women often go underreported and untracked

Native-led organizations are working to stop this epidemic. Support them: weareultraviolet.org/vanw ultra 🕅 violet

#### THE FACTS ABOUT **VIOLENCE AGAINST NATIVE WOMEN**

of American Indian and Alaska Native women experience violence in their lifetime — the highest rate in the nation

They are higher than the national murdered average at a rate

### HOW **IS THIS** HAPPENING?



#### JURISDICTIONS: TRIBAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL



The federal government created complex laws and regulations for tribal governments to follow that make it difficult, if not impossible, for tribes to respond to sexual assault in an effective manner.



- recognized tribe or not;
- - not.

#### **BARRIERS TO JUSTICE:**

#### WHAT JURISDICTION HAS **AUTHORITY?**

- Whether the victim is a member of a federally
- Whether the accused is a member of a federally
  - recognized tribe or not; and
- Whether the offence took place on tribal land or

TRIBAL LAW AND ORDER ACT (TLOA) ORIGINATED IN 2010 UNDER OBAMA PRESIDENCY





- Enforcement challenges
- Confusion over jurisdiction
- Inadequate training for federal agents

#### **PROS OF TLOA:**

• Focuses on reducing violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women • Gives tribes more authority to prosecute and punish criminals

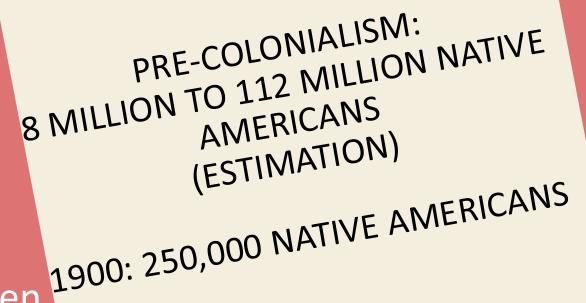
#### CONS OF TLOA:

# VIÔLENCÊ IS ROOTED IN COLONIALISM



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- Before Columbus's 1492 expedition Native American women were honored and important in tribal life
- Violence against women was rare within tribes
  - Women took an active role in the political process and occasionally became tribal chiefs
- Colonial strategy for conquest and genocide targeted women due to their ability to sustain the tribes through childbearing
- Colonial legacy of violence left deep scars in Native American communities
  - Normalized and fuels the high levels of sexual abuse and violence against Native women today



#### SOCIETY MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THE SETTLER-COLONIAL HISTORY OF BRUTALITY AND GENOCIDE

#### NATIVE-LED ORGANIZATIONS TO SUPPORT

Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native

Women

- Tewa Women United
- National Indigenous Women's Resource

Center

- StrongHearts Native Hotline
  - Indigenous Goddess Gang
    - Native Love

SUPPORT NATIVE-LED ORGANIZATIONS TO STOP THE EPIDEMIC

#### IMPACTFUL WAYS LAW STUDENTS CAN GET INVOLVED:

LAW STUDENTS CAN PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN PROMOTING AWARENESS AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO COMBAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Host educational events
- Advocate for policy reform
- Partner with local organizations
- Spread awareness on social media
- Support campus initiatives
- Educate peers through coursework and research
- Develop bystander intervention programs
- Legal clinics for domestic violence
- Join/start a domestic violence task force
- Network and collaborate with legal professionals

## THANK FOR HENING!

