



# Parenting Programs and Prevention of Tribal Youth Delinquency

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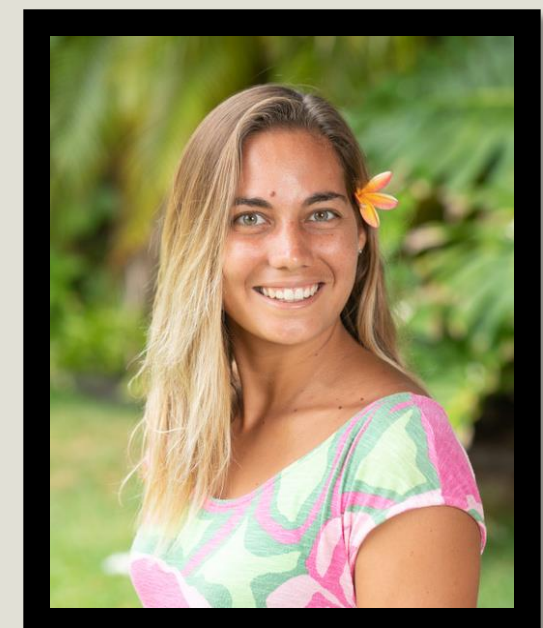
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# Presentation Summary

Tribal Youth programs have services for youth and families that are intended to prevent and address youth involvement in the justice system. The Tribally-focused parenting programs information is intended to expand the capacity of parents/families to prevent youth/juvenile delinquency.

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# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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- Increase knowledge on parenting programs, training and resources that are Indigenous-based and/or focused on Tribal families' prevention of youth/juvenile delinquency
- Learn from an Indigenous Parent and Grandparent who will share Indigenous based parenting and grandparenting strategies to support tribal youth serving entities - such as tribal youth programs, juvenile justice organizations, and schools - with information on family engagement as a prevention strategy for youth involvement in the justice system



## How Parenting Connects to Youth Justice Involvement

- Including extended family and relatives in youth justice programming promotes the importance of kinship and builds support for youth (McKay et al, 2014)
- There is a strong link between parent involvement and youth delinquency rates (McKay et al, 2014)
- Monitoring by parents/caregivers protects against juvenile recidivism (LaBerge et al, 2022)
- Youth arrest has shown to have significant negative impact on the transition to adulthood and socioeconomics (Sittner & Estes, 2023)
- Juvenile Delinquency is related to “criminalization of traumatic responses” (Rolnick & Sekaquaptewa, 2022)



# Grandparenting Tribal Youth: An Elder's Perspective on Preventing Youth Delinquency





## **Parenting Native Youth: A Parent's Perspective on Protection and Prevention of Youth Delinquency**





# Hawaiian Parenting Strategies

- 'Ohana (Family) as the Center of Life:
- Aloha Love, Compassion, and Respect):
- Kuleana (Responsibility and Duty)
- Ho'omālama (Nurturing and Care)
- Cultural Education and Storytelling
- Kuleana to the 'Aina (Land) and Kūpuna (Ancestors)
- 'Ike (Knowledge and Wisdom)
- Maika'i (Goodness, Morality, and Social Responsibility)
- Ho'oponopono (Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation)
- Spiritual Connection (Pono)



# Core Indigenous Parenting Strategies

- **Respect for the Child's Autonomy**

- Children are seen as spiritual beings with their own purpose.
- Adults act as guides, not controllers.
- Discipline is often non-punitive, relying on modeling behavior and storytelling.

- **Intergenerational Learning**

- Elders play a key role in teaching language, values, and life skills.
- Learning is oral and experiential, often involving stories, ceremonies, and time on the land.



- **Community-Based Parenting**

- The idea of "it takes a village to raise a child" is central.
- Multiple caregivers (aunties, uncles, grandparents) are involved

- **Spiritual and Cultural Connection**

- Teaching children about their language, ceremonies, and traditional knowledge.
- Strong emphasis on identity, pride, and connection to ancestors.

- **Land-Based Education**

- Teaching survival skills, traditional food gathering, and environmental stewardship.
- Nature is often seen as a classroom and a healer

# Resources & Programs

## Books and Toolkits

- **"Sacred Little Ones" (W.K. Kellogg Foundation)** – A project supporting Native early childhood education.
- **"The Honoring Our Strengths" Framework (Canada)** – Integrates Indigenous knowledge in mental health and parenting.
- **"Forever Loved: Exposing the Hidden Crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in Canada"** – Though not directly a parenting manual, it offers context around safety, identity, and resilience.

## Programs & Organizations

- **Native American Fatherhood and Families Association (NAFFA)** – Offers culturally grounded fatherhood and parenting programs like "Fatherhood is Sacred, Motherhood is Sacred."
- **The Indigenous Parent Program (IPP)** – Various tribal councils offer local support and workshops on parenting and traditional knowledge.
- **First Nations Health Authority (FNHA)** – Offers mental health and parenting support for First Nations families in British Columbia.
- **Positive Indian Parenting** - An 8 to 10 week program offered by National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA),



## Additional Online Resources



- . **StrongHearts Native Helpline** – Emotional and parenting support for Native families.
- . **Native Wellness Institute** – Promotes the well-being of Indigenous people through training and tribally-grounded content.
- . **Idle No More's Education Resources** – Offers educational materials for families and parents on tribal knowledge.





# QUESTIONS/ DISCUSSION

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# REFERENCES

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