

### **"Hot Dogs and Hamburgers"**

Drivin' down on a dry summer's day  
[Old Route 66](#) and I was just a kid  
Met a pretty little Indian girl  
Along the way  
Got her into my car  
And tried to give her a kiss  
I'll give you beads and [wampum](#)  
Whatever it takes girl, to make you trade  
She jumped into the back seat  
And she kind of flipped her lid  
She said you're tryin' to get something for nothing  
Like the pilgrims in the olden days

We rode for a while till the sun went away  
And I realized it was sort of an honor  
Bein' around this girl  
I felt embarrassed  
Of what I tried to do earlier that day  
She was the saddest girl I ever knew  
She told me stories about the Indian nations  
And how the white man stole their lives away  
And although she kinda liked me  
She could never trust me  
And when the sun comes up  
We'd go our different ways

#### Chorus

Now everybody has got the choice  
Between hotdogs and hamburgers  
Every one of us has got to choose  
Between right and wrong  
And givin' up or holdin' on

So I dropped her off at some railroad crossing in  
Texas  
An old Indian man was waiting there  
He smiled and thanked me  
But he saw right through me  
I could tell he didn't like me  
For my kind he did not care  
Because to him I was the white man  
The one who sold him something that he already  
owned  
And it was like he'd been riding in the car right there  
with us  
And I felt ashamed of my actions  
And the way the west was really won  
So I drove down the highway  
Till I came to Los Angeles  
The town of the angels  
The best this country can do

I got down on my knees  
And I asked for forgiveness  
I said, [Lord, forgive us for we know not what we do](#)

**-John Mellencamp**

