

Wolakota - Jesse Taken Alive - OSEU 3

A message for our friends...our non-Indian friends...there's one Creator. There's one world. Essentially we have the same address. The Creator is like a gardener, a magnificent gardener. He created mankind and he spread the seeds of mankind throughout the world. Different colors...different language...different culture...different history...different everything. But all coming from the same Creator. It's beautiful. It's really beautiful to think about it in that way. As Lakota, we have many teachings...as I said earlier...we say "wolakota," which means peace or to be peaceful. That's what we want to do. A lot of times that gets misunderstood in this aggressive world, in this capitalistic world, as not knowing or not caring. It's totally the opposite. When somebody is sharing something with us, we use the two best things that we've got: our ears. When somebody is showing us something, we use the two best things that we've got: our eyes. When it's our time, we only have one thing to use: our mind. What we see, what we hear, what we feel is what we become. That's Lakota thinking. We want to make certain that we do our best to carry forward wolakota. And when we speak...to do our best...to try and articulate it in a way so our friends...so other cultures will know that its pro Lakota.

Jesse Taken Alive: [00:02:00] It's not anti-American. It's not anti-white. It's pro Lakota. That's something I try my best to do...to be that pro Lakota. To be that person that...so that way the message doesn't get lost. I don't want the message to get lost because then I will have failed my ancestors...that way I will have failed my children and grandchildren...if the message gets lost. Over the years, I know a lot of us have been given beautiful messages inspired by a lot of wonderful people...that inspiration with our language. I don't want the message to get lost. As we proceed forward, as we look at education...the changes for the purpose of discussion today...if you want to call it a demonstration project, that's fine...like I said, give us an equal amount of time...I know that we'll be able to accomplish something. In less than 125 years, I know something good will happen...it's happening now. **LAKOTA UNTIL 6 min 46 sec**

Jesse Taken Alive: [00:04:00] **LAKOTA UNTIL 6 min 46 sec**

Jesse Taken Alive: [00:06:00] LAKOTA UNTIL 6 min 46 sec I call this the song...we call it The Mama and Papa song. The words are simply that...throughout the world...LAKOTA PHRASE...the Lakota ways are precious. When we hear the word, LAKOTA WORD, sometimes we eliminate our understanding to say "it's hard." Some days it is. LAKOTA WORD means "priceless." LAKOTA PHRASE we say...my mom and my dad LAKOTA PHRASE...my mom and my dad said I am a Lakota so I'm going to take courage. I know that prayer and that spirit of our ancestors was put out there...and continues to be out there for us to grab and understand. I share that in closing today. I am grateful for this opportunity. When we do our best to articulate our Lakota being and our language...as I said...

Jesse Taken Alive: [00:08:00] sometimes we fall down it seems like. We stand up and fall down. We're stumbling around to use our language because we've been accustomed to using English most of the time. It's an honor to be part of this and express myself a little bit with my Lakota ways. LAKOTA PHRASE.