

Press Release

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Western National Parks Association

KEEPING PROMISES

What is sovereignty

And other questions about Indian Country

Whether you call them Native Americans, American Indians, Navajo, Cheyenne, or Cherokee, they are Americans right down to the ground. They managed to retain some of the ground that European expansion took from them over the years, and today they assert the sovereignty of their claims and demand what the U. S. government promised them during more than two hundred years of war and treaties.

Keeping Promises, the new book from award-winning publisher Western National Parks Association, describes those pledges and the way the indigenous nations use them to nurture their traditions and independence. Although they are American citizens, they also have sovereignty on their own land, legally defined reservations, that allows them to maintain their own police forces, schools, governments, and, yes, casinos.

Presented in a non-threatening, non-academic way, *Keeping Promises* describes the complex but important relationship between Indian tribes and the U.S. government.

Learn how land, ceremony, tradition, history, law, and politics intersect to define tribal sovereignty. Learn about why casinos are legal on reservations. Learn about historic moments that have laid the groundwork for Indian sovereignty. Most important, understand how Indians define themselves, their tribes, and their sovereignty.

Images by noted photographer Gwendolen Cates accompany the straight-forward text. These contemporary photographs show Native people from across America in all aspects of modern Native life—at work, at home, at festivals, and with family and friends.

About the Contributors

Betty Reid (Navajo) is a reporter for the *Arizona Republic*, where she has covered schools and tribes for more than twelve years. Ben Winton (Pascua Yaqui Aztec, Crow) was a newspaper and magazine reporter and editor for twenty-two years before launching his own website development business. They live in Phoenix, Arizona. Gwendolen Cates has been photographing for national and international magazines, as well as for entertainment, publishing, and advertising agencies, for nearly fifteen years. She lives in New York City.

Keeping Promises by Betty Reid and Ben Winton, photography by Gwendolen Cates
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Available from your bookseller or from Western National Parks Association at 888-569-7762
or from our web store at www.wnpa.org. Additional press information at www.wnpa.org/pressroom.asp.