

CLIMATE CHANGE

And

HUMAN RIGHTS:

The Case of the Inuit



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Iqaluit, Nunavut



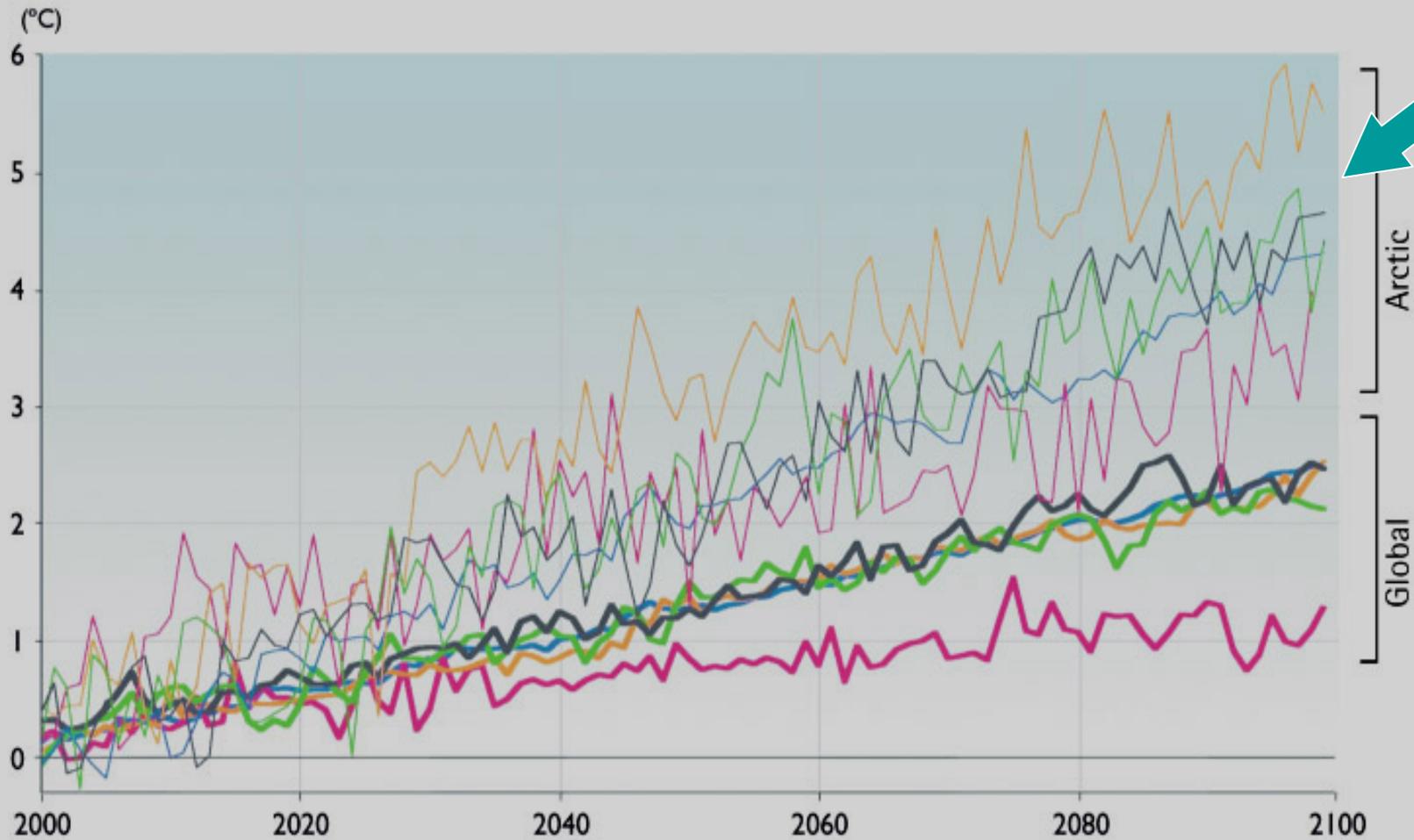








Projected Surface Air Temperature Change (change from 1981-2000 Average)



©2004, ACIA

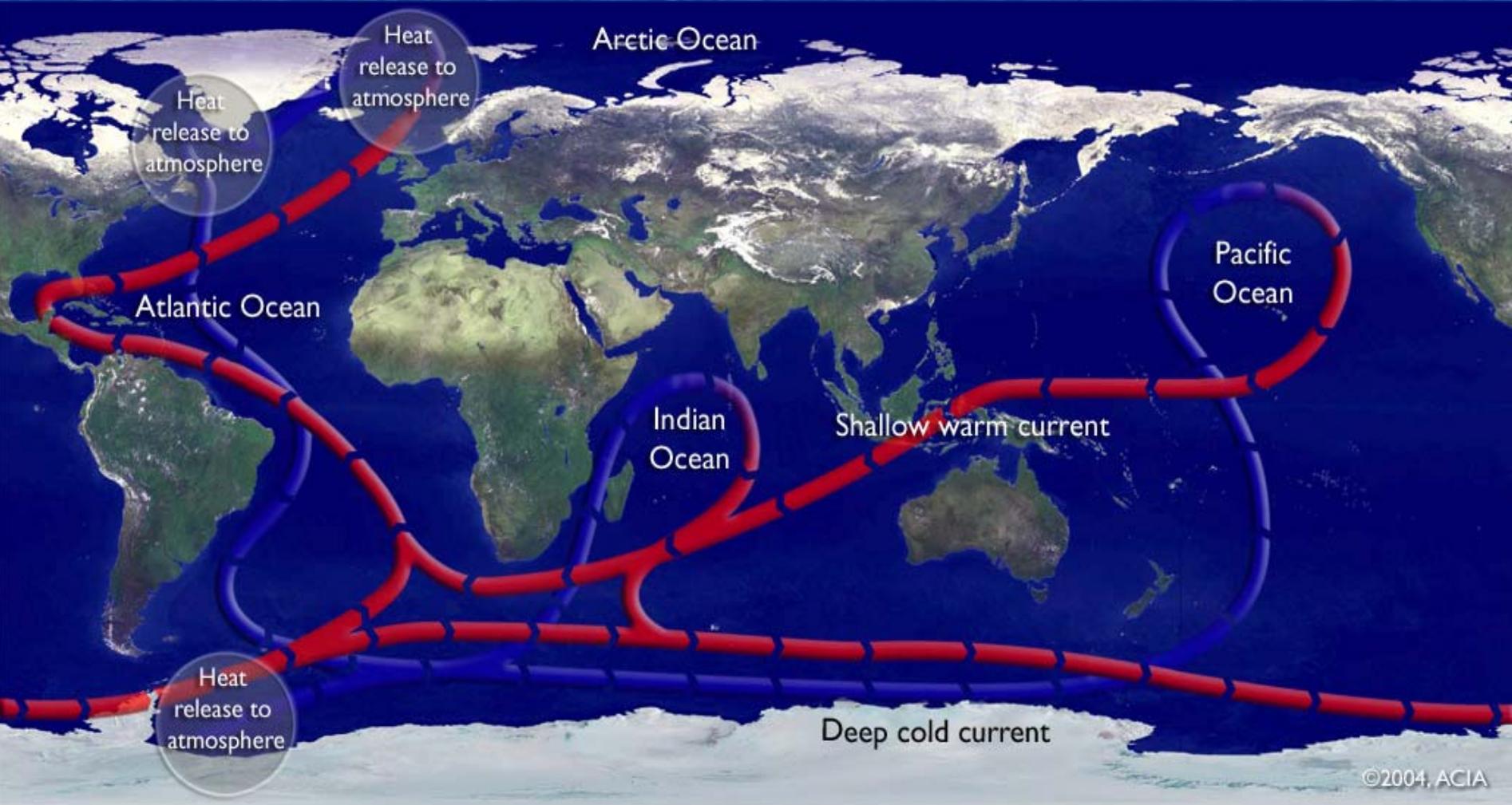
Global Average

- CGCM2
- CSM_1.4
- ECHAM4/OPYC3
- GFDL-R30_C
- HadCM3

Arctic Average

- CGCM2
- CSM_1.4
- ECHAM4/OPYC3
- GFDL-R30_C
- HadCM3

Ocean Circulation



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

A dramatic, monochromatic blue-toned image. A large, ornate hand holding a flaming torch is positioned in the upper right, appearing to be part of a giant statue or structure. The hand is set against a backdrop of a dark, stormy sky with heavy clouds. Below the hand, a city skyline is visible on the left, partially obscured by the dark water of a sea. The water is turbulent, with white-capped waves crashing. The overall mood is one of impending doom and heroic sacrifice.

THE DAY AFTER
TOMORROW

MAY 28 WHERE WILL YOU BE?





Projected summer sea-ice depletion

2010 - 2030

2040 - 2060

2070 - 2090









ACIA Key Finding

“Marine species dependent on sea ice, including polar bears, ice-living seals, walrus, and some marine birds, are very likely to decline, with some facing extinction.”



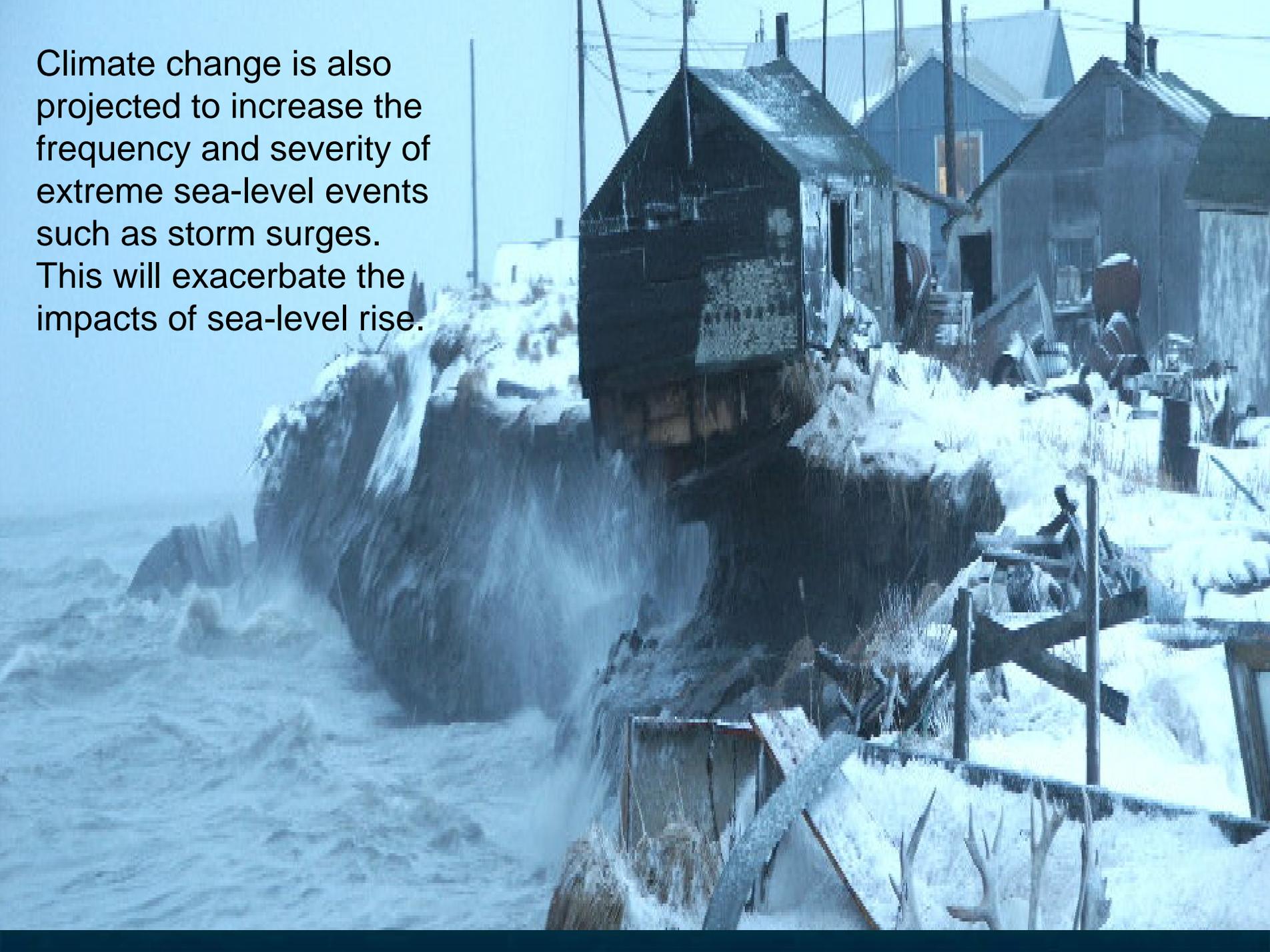


Alaska Winter Tundra Travel Days (1970-2002)



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Climate change is also projected to increase the frequency and severity of extreme sea-level events such as storm surges. This will exacerbate the impacts of sea-level rise.



West Nile Virus Northward to the Arctic



ACIA: Key Finding

“For Inuit, warming is likely to disrupt or even destroy their hunting and food sharing culture as reduced sea-ice causes the animals on which they depend to decline, become less accessible, possibly become extinct.”



The Protection of Indigenous populations is a “sacred commitment” of states.

IACHR



The American Declaration guarantees the right to the benefits of culture.

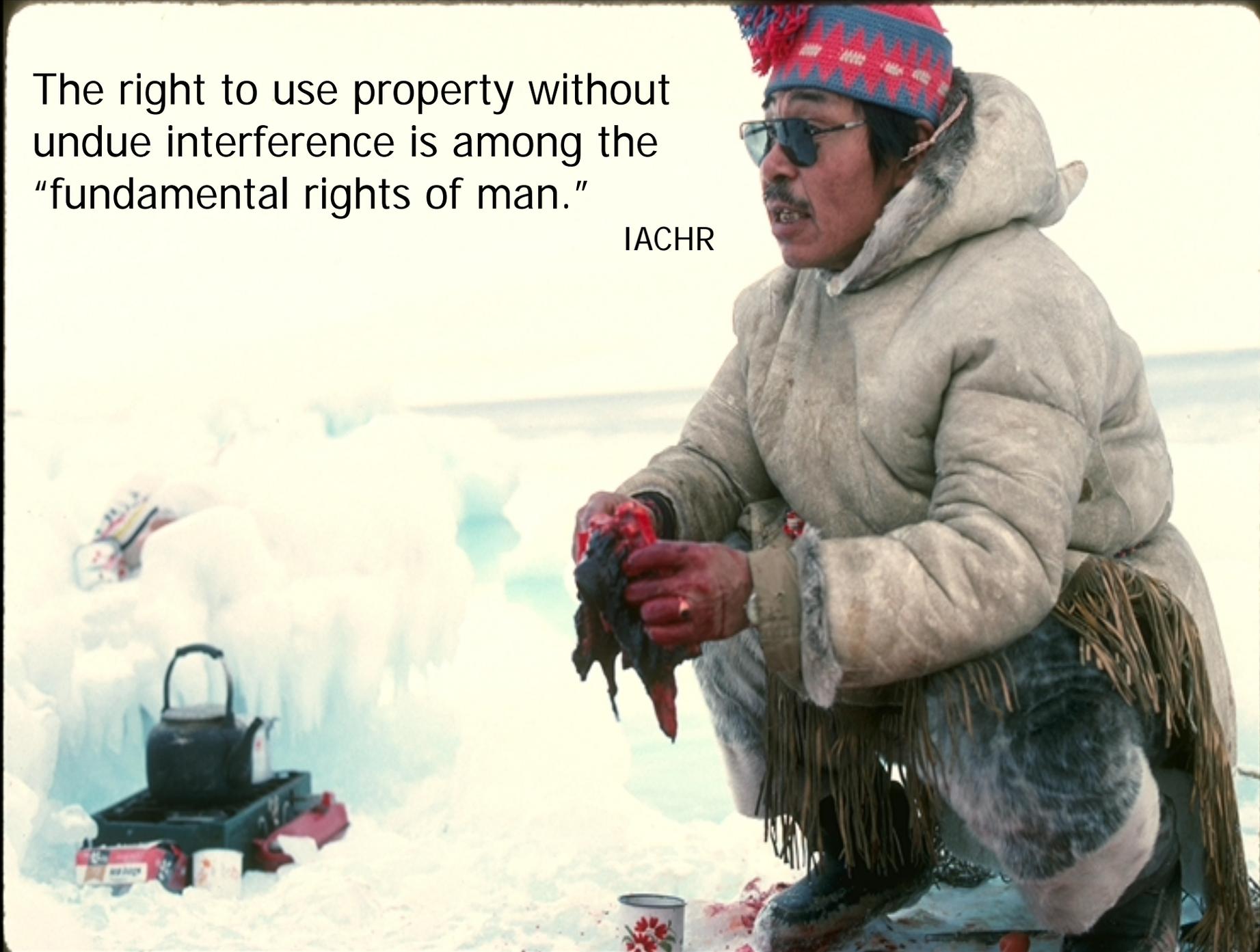




The American Declaration guarantees the right to use and enjoy the lands Indigenous People have traditionally occupied.

The right to use property without undue interference is among the "fundamental rights of man."

IACHR



The American Declaration guarantees the right to the preservation of health.

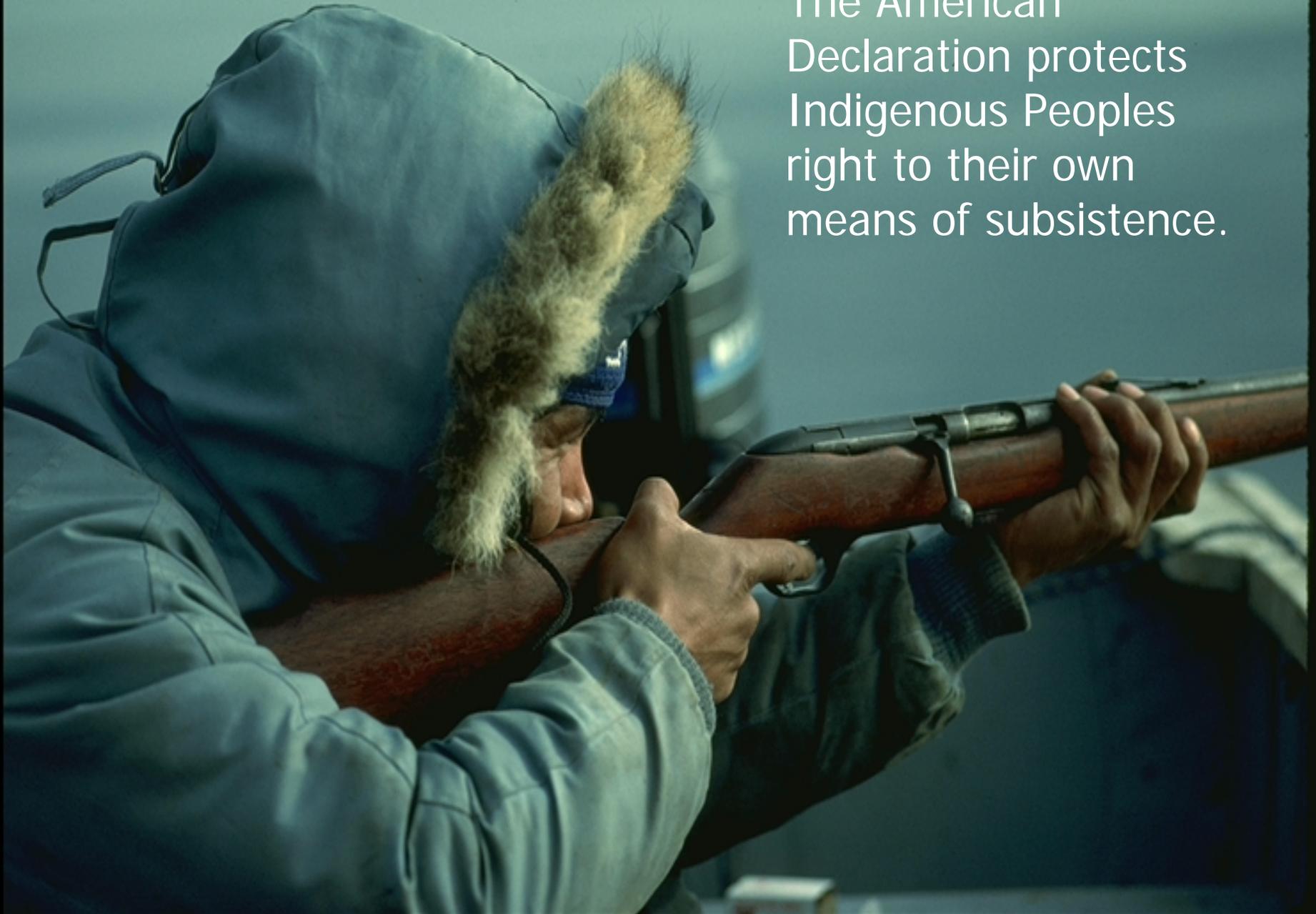




Arctic Photo Co.

The rights to life, physical integrity and security is necessarily related to and dependent upon one's physical environment.
IACHR

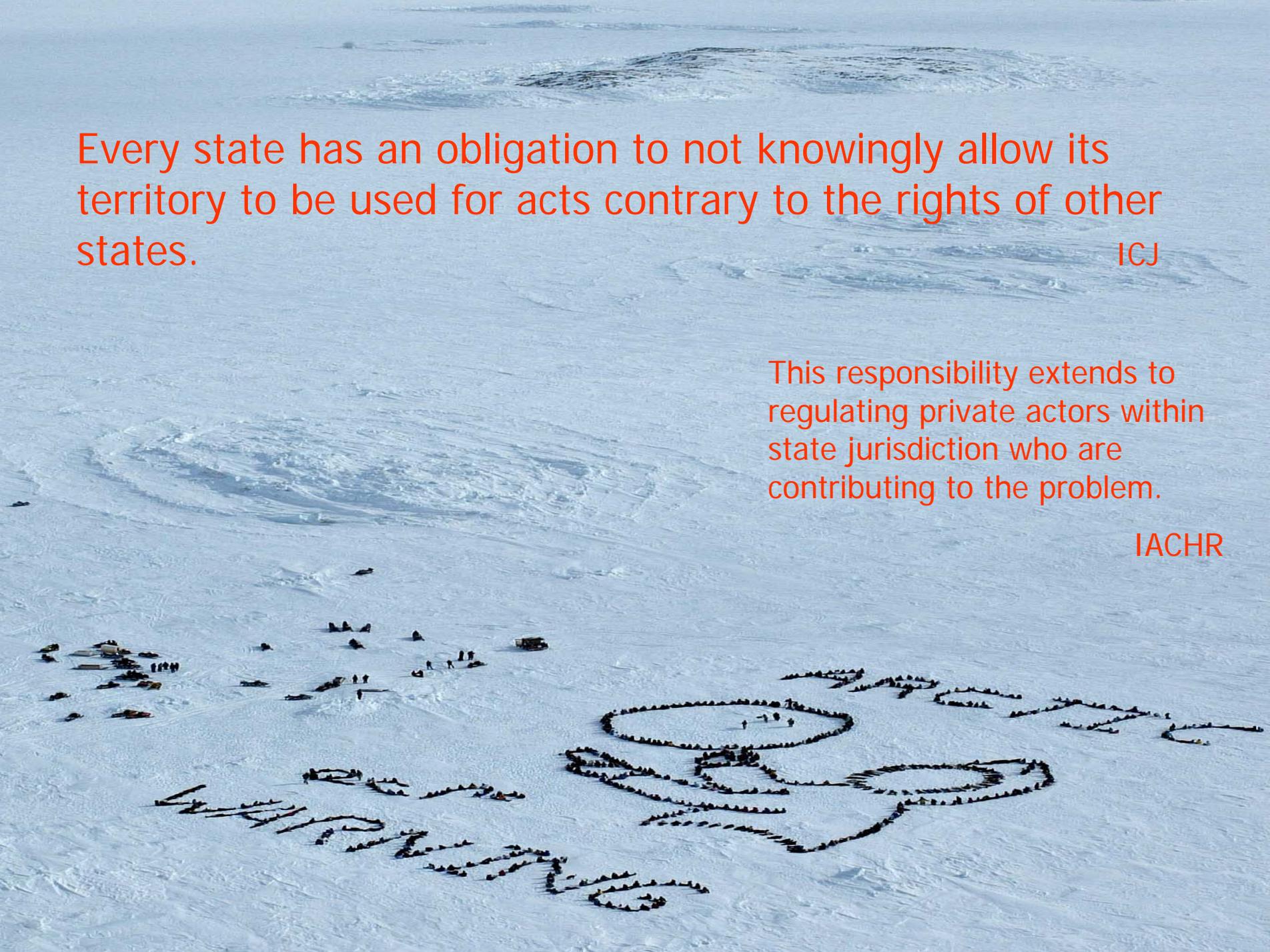
The American Declaration protects Indigenous Peoples right to their own means of subsistence.



“The use and enjoyment of the land and its resources are integral components of the physical and cultural survival of the Indigenous communities.”

IACHR



An aerial photograph of a vast, snow-covered landscape. In the foreground and middle ground, a large number of people are arranged in a long, winding, S-shaped line across the snow. In the lower-left quadrant, a group of people is gathered around several small, dark structures, possibly tents or huts. The background shows a flat, snow-covered plain extending to a distant horizon under a clear sky.

Every state has an obligation to not knowingly allow its territory to be used for acts contrary to the rights of other states.

ICJ

This responsibility extends to regulating private actors within state jurisdiction who are contributing to the problem.

IACHR

Indigenous Peoples should not be forced to assimilate with other culture in ways and on a schedule not of their choosing.



