

Housing Authority let slip at a public meeting that white families moving into a new house in the County are charged \$1,500 for hooking up to the County water supply...while Indian families are charged \$9,400 for the same hookup!

Why? A spokesman for the Tripp County Water Users District said only that this has "always" been County policy.

I bet you didn't read about Tripp County's blatant racial discrimination against Native Americans in your home town newspaper. Yet if something like this happened to our African-American brothers in a Southern county, Federal troops would be occupying that county.

That's what it means to be America's Forgotten Minority.

And that's why I'm asking you to use the enclosed stamps...to help America remember its Forgotten Minority.

If only you could come to "Indian Country" in person and visit the reservations with me!

You'd see "Third World" poverty that makes the living conditions of even many "poor" Americans, black and white, look almost comfortable by comparison:

- Per capita income on a typical Sioux Reservation in South Dakota is \$1,238 a year, according to a government study. That's about \$100 a month for each man, woman and child. Could you live on that?
- Over 60% of Reservation families live below the poverty level. Only 10% have telephones. 70% have no access to a car. Unemployment is over 80%.
- And you wouldn't believe the medical conditions...An article in U.S. News & World Report summed it up — "a [Sioux] Indian is 10 times more likely to die by age 45 than his counterpart in white America. The infant mortality count is double the national rate. Tuberculosis, rare in mainstream America, is often seen here."
- And although disease and violence are rampant on such Reservations, hospitals are few and far between. The Rosebud reservation, for example, is bigger than New York City and Long Island combined, but there's just one Indian Health Service hospital! And many of the Sioux people live over 100 miles from that hospital.
- And saddest of all...the highest teen suicide rate in America is on Indian Reservations — triple the national average.

To see young people come to believe that killing themselves is better than living — God save them!