heritage behind but are never totally accepted by the Peruvian society. Here in North America, Native children of color are treated the same.

> Domestics are called by racially and ethnically derogative terms such as Indian, or chola. Such racial terms denote inferiority in the Peruvian status hierarchy, in which the most visibly indigenous is at the bottom of the heap and the whitest is at the top (Radcliff 1989, 53-67).

Native Americans in South America and North America are among the most oppressed people. Rigoberta recognized this situation and realized how she would not turn her back on her heritage or traditions. "I was thinking of our humble way of life and their debauched life. I said, 'How pathetic these people are who can't even shit alone. We poor enjoy ourselves more than they do'" (Menchu 1989, 100). Due to their struggle for the very necessities it is not hard to understand how the statistics back up the reality of their existence.

Their poor health, lack of education and inability to compete (due to prejudice) in the white world keeps them from the good life. "Only 55.8 percent of those age twenty-five and older have completed high school and 7.7 percent have completed four or more years of college" (Fernandez 1991, 124).

I have been doing research on learning disabilities and other labeling, this being a major contributor to the high percentage of Native Americans that don't complete their education. The definition of learning disabilities is