

RECOGNIZES DIFFERENCE IN STATUS OF OKLAHOMA AND MISSISSIPPI CHOCTAWS

(Static) - (recognizing the fact that you just been recently elected, I guess, to the chairmanship of the council here in Mississippi, this is quite an honor. And I think they couldn't have made a better choice in my observation, but what I would like to talk about this morning a little bit, is the development of Choctaw civilization in here, since as far back as we might recall some of the events, and some comparison of them with what has happened in Oklahoma, since a group went over there. And I know its been quite a struggle, quite a difficult development in the face of all the adversity that has come to this group here and to our group over in Oklahoma, because of the intermixture of other societies? How do you feel about that now?)

Well, let me say this by, although I've been just recently elected to be the chairman of the council and being involved with the tribal affairs since 1957, actively all the time in one capacity or another. But most of the time as a member of the council and previous chairman for about six years from fifty-nine to sixty-five. And since sixty-six, worked here as a community action agency director. So at least from this period I know quite a bit about what has transpired. I think that I'm not that much qualified to compare what has taken place in Oklahoma and compare it with here. I always understood that you people over there had all that citizens rights and there were no problems of discrimination and employment. We always had the impression that, you know, you people had it made over there. However, just by traveling through that country on a couple of occasions, I found out that it's not quite a true statement or impression that people have given us in