

HOW GOOD FAMILIES RAISED THEIR DAUGHTER:

Now, this boy was the chief's son and he got married. He married a nice girl that come from a good family and when they have a child, if it's a little girl they brought her up this way. She's a little girl first, a baby girl you might say. When they pierce her ears, they must give her horse. As many horses for her-- like her grandparents on both sides--Father's, and mother's parents--well, they do their share. They so proud that they have a new granddaughter and they give horses. They load these horses with gifts on their backs and bridle. They put hadderchiefs--handkerchiefs. Way back there I guess they use to use eagle feathers. Or fans, these pretty eagle fans, that you see now--days. They tie them on their tail. And they go get a warrior and paint his horse. Course I guess they have to pay the warrior to do that. This warrior's horse had to be shot when he was in war fighting in some battle. They put them five hands (on there). Nobody else is allowed to put the five hands on--to paint the horse like that. Just the one that killed an enemy. Yeah, you just can't paint a horse. You got to go through something like that. Well, they take them girls to center of--might be a big to-do some place, or a Sun Dance or something like that, where there's a lot of crowd, big crowd. They give these horses away. Course the erier has to announce it aloud, that this grandfather and the grandmother is piercing their little granddaughter's ear. And then the boys parents, and then the boy himself; gives a horse away. Maybe they give five or six horses away. Now like me, they give three horses away when I had my ears pierced. My father give one and my two uncles gave one apiece. And this little girl must also wear a little elk tooth here in front.

(On her forehead?)

Uh huh, on her forehead. And in my picture I had one of those elk teeth. And I don't know how many horses they have to give, but I was already about--just ready to go to school when they removed that. Oh I use to hate it. I never like it. I fight my father before we go to Sun Dance. First thing he comb that, and hang that elk tooth on it. They weren't just like playthings they put it on their heads.