

SCISSORTAIL FEATHERS AND EAGLE FEATHERS IN PEYOTE RITUAL:

(Do these crow feathers have any particular meaning?)

I seen some of that. But nowadays, I don't know-- I know don't if you know anything' about these state birds--these flycatchers--but over there I heard around San Angelo on these combine maize, you know--this feed. Before they cut it, they spray that. Kill that-- And then these birds go to eat 'em, and a bunch of 'em died, you know. Lot of them over there. I just wonder why they pass a law against these feathers here not too many years ago. You know that. I never did ask anybody just the direct authority on passing a law against killing those birds. I don't know--it's just a shame the way they're doing us Indians. Depriving us of what we cherish-- what we love. Now they first done that to our feathers, and now they got out peyote (referring to Texas law against peyote). I don't think that's fair at all. Therefore I said at that conference, if we take it to court and if we win--if we were in their place and they were in our place, they'd just sue us for everything they could get. So that's what I want. They're damaging our religion, and they're interfering with our religion, and they're gonna stand up in court and they're going to do what they're doing--they're subject to fine. Should be made example out of. Cause they made that law--it's in the Constitution of the United States whereby the Congress cannot dictate any religious convictions. That's being violated. There should be a penalty to it.

(Do the scissortail feathers have any special meaning?)

No, not particularly, but it's just the looks. It's pretty, see. And that pink-- you know in the morning--toward morning--you know that cloud gets pink, you know. That's what they refer to. And that eagle feathers, too, they got a meaning to it. Black tips, you know. You see--look up in heaven--it's blue up there. You can't see nothing. But appears light. Eagles is just naturally that way. Well there's just one particular eagle that way--what is that, a golden or bald eagle? Which is it? I think the bald eagle's got white tail, all over--right?

(I think so.)

And the golden eagle's --well one of them--I not sure which. I don't know which eagle it is, but it's not white tail; sure white. But the other one, it's not black