

This is my way of thinking. This is my own opinion. I think Cherokees should be taught not like a foreign language but English as a foreign-- Cherokee language was here first.

(Oh I see. Well--)

I'm not trying to make all white men Cherokee speakers or nothing like that. But I think that's the real home language. Indians were here first before white man came here. Back in 1492, right? When Columbus came here?

(Right.)

Well I don't remember little bit about history. But I tell you what, the way it's written in the books the history has been twisted so much too. It's not the true history. Well you can write a story and before you know it if you don't know the exact truth when you write a sotry you're going to exaggerate it a lot.

(Well are you saying you would like to have some Indian history or the history books, or more to--written more to convey the truth about the settlement of this country and part that the Indians played in it?)

Well if I did that and somebody wrote about it today, you wouldn't have the truth. You got to write it as exactly as it happens. That day, when it happened write about it. But if you write about it ten or twenty years later yo u don't know exactly what happened. That's what I mean by history being exagerrated.

(Well Wesley, to solve this problem of the young Cherokee when he starts in school in our elementary school system, and he comes from a Cherokee speaking home, and he goes to our schools that are really set up for the white middle class students, and this child really doesn't comprehend English, how would you go about solving this problem?)

Take more time with him or her. You got to--

(I know in a former conversation with you, I believe it was you said something about they should have teachers that speak both languages or an