



# ICWA Courts: *Gold Standard* Courts

Sheldon Spotted Elk, JD  
Tribal-State Court  
Consortium  
Vancouver, WA

casey family programs September 22, 2019

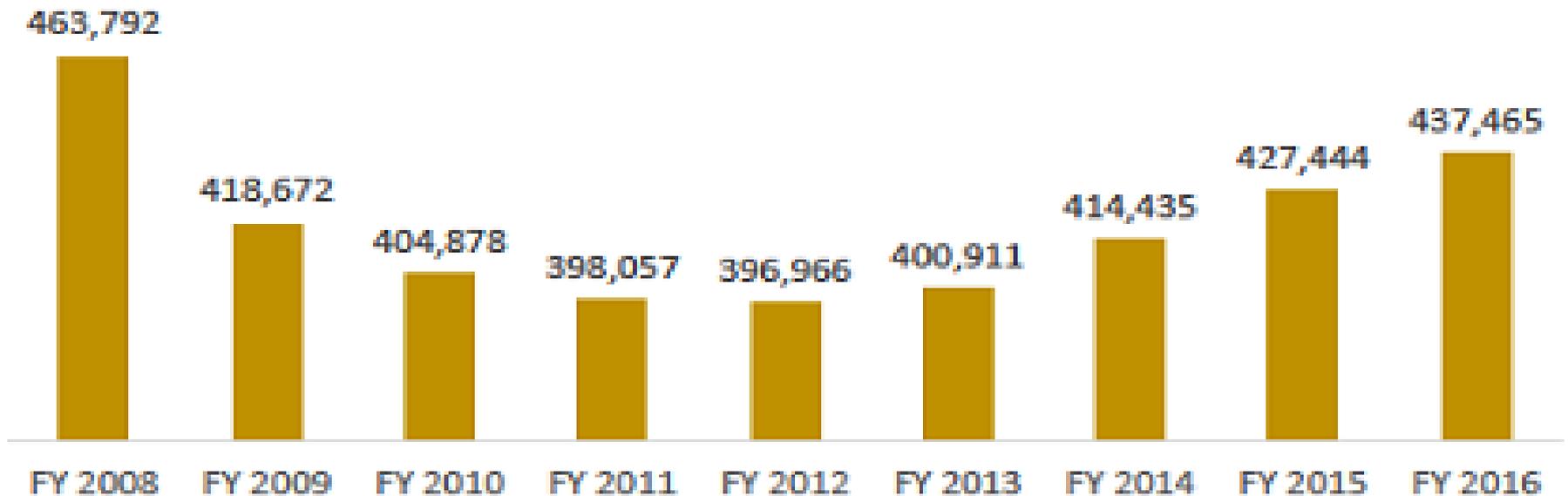
# SAFE STRONG SUPPORTIVE

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safe children | strong families | supportive communities

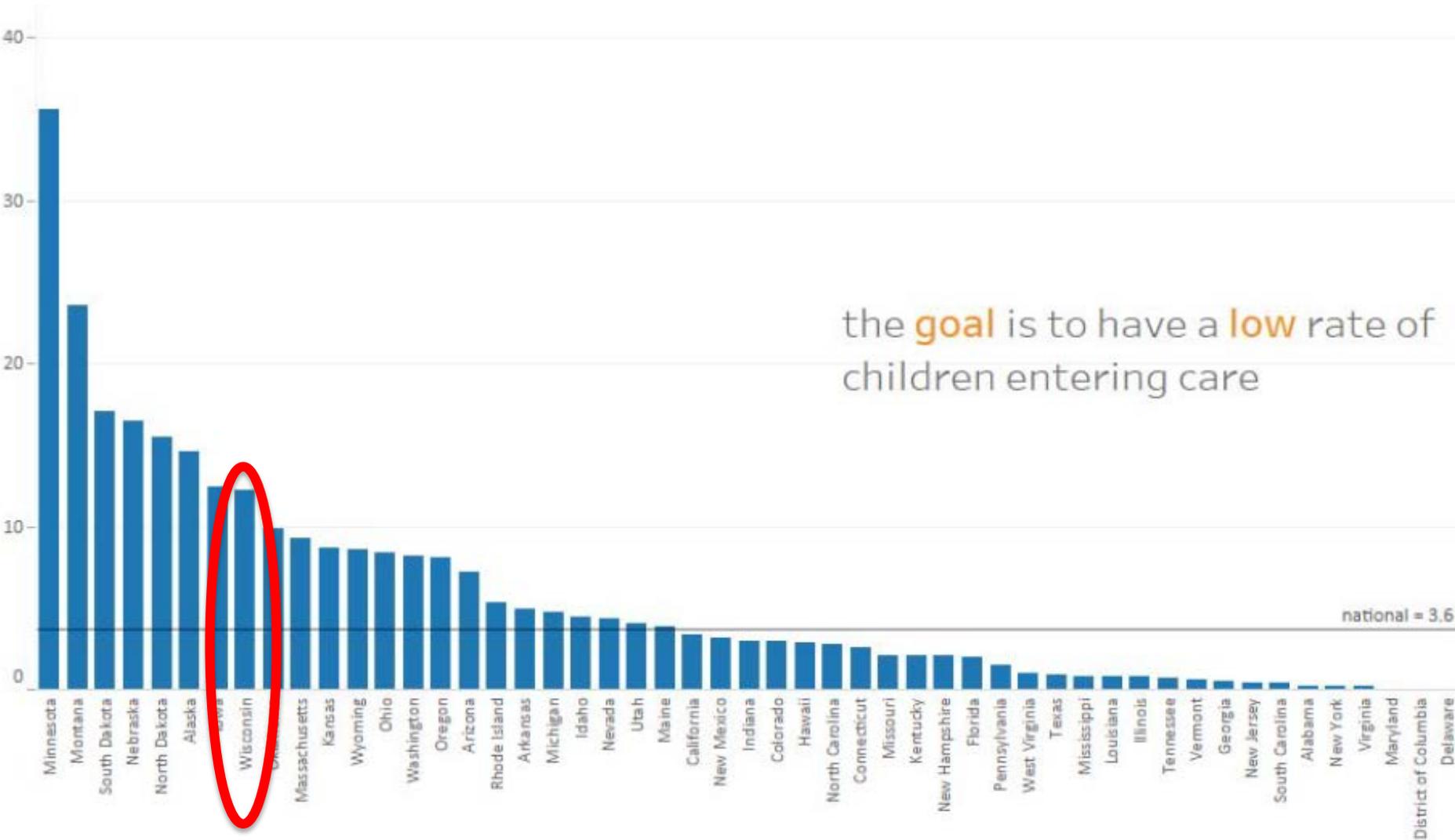
# After years of decline, the number of children in foster care has steadily risen in recent years.

Number in foster care on September 30 of the FY



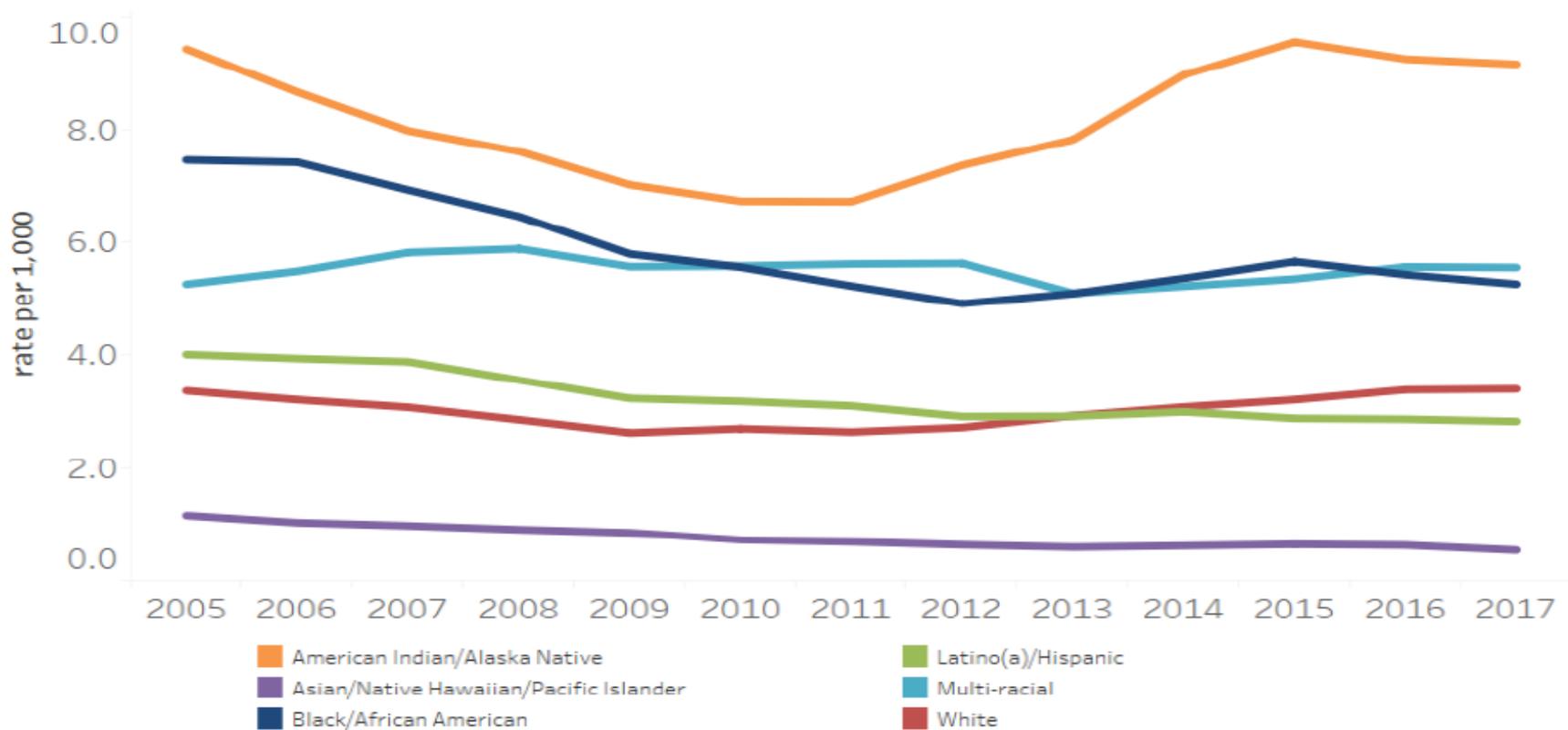
SOURCE: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS)

# Rate of AI/AN Children Entering Care

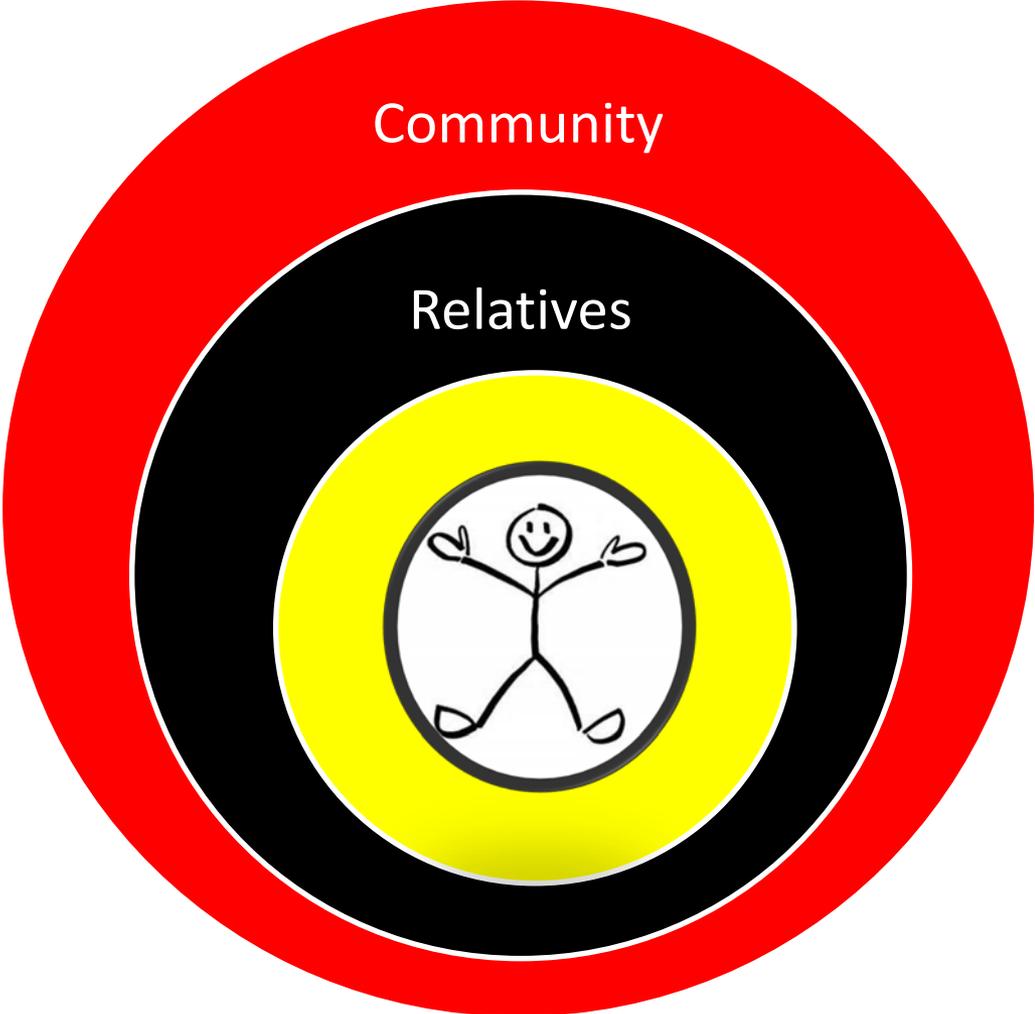


# Need for ICWA?

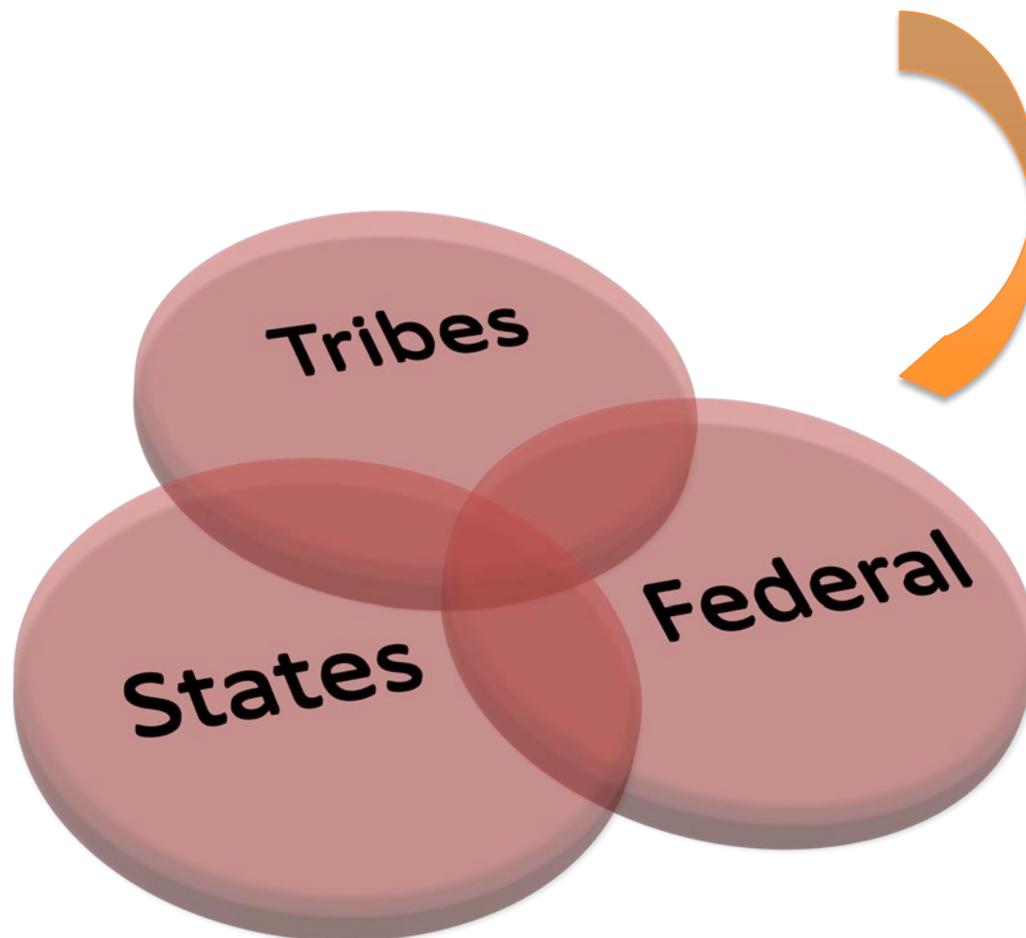
Native children enter care at nearly three times the rate of Latino & White youth



# Why the *Gold Standard* of child welfare?



# Indian Child Welfare Act



# ICWA Courts



ICWA Court Collaborative

# ICWA Courts

Stakeholder  
Collaboration

ICWA Data  
Collection

Proximity/Cultural  
Humility

ICWA Training

Judicial Leadership



# Native American Populations 2019

State	2019 Population	Indian (Total) ▼	Indian (%)
Oklahoma	3,896,251	276,650	7.10%
Arizona	6,809,946	266,680	3.92%
New Mexico	2,084,828	181,382	8.70%
California	38,982,847	137,813	0.35%
North Carolina	10,052,564	109,080	1.09%
Alaska	738,565	101,704	13.77%
Washington	7,169,967	79,825	1.11%
South Dakota	855,444	71,127	8.31%
Texas	27,419,612	65,883	0.24%
Montana	1,029,862	64,251	6.24%
Minnesota	5,490,726	51,999	0.95%
Wisconsin	5,763,217	45,947	0.80%
New York	19,798,228	45,623	0.23%
Michigan	9,925,568	44,263	0.45%
Florida	20,278,447	41,706	0.21%
North Dakota	745,475	38,662	5.19%
Oregon	4,025,127	34,905	0.87%
Colorado	5,436,519	28,624	0.53%