

POSITION ON RACISM AND NATIVE AMERICANS

The Milwaukee Jewish Council is deeply concerned by the incidents of racism which have polluted the dispute over Chippewa treaty rights. Crowds and individuals shouting racial and cultural epithets and carrying signs with derogatory messages create an intolerable situation.

While the issues surrounding the impact of treaty rights on the economic interests of the northern tourist industry are complex and do not admit of easy solutions, the Council nevertheless condemns the introduction of racist ingredients into this already troubled arena. We urge Governor Thompson and Attorney General Hanaway to persist in their efforts to achieve and actively promote a just resolution.

The Council also urges that elected officials throughout the state publicly condemn any overt racism and violence being exhibited so as to draw a clear line between acceptable and unacceptable forms of public protest.