for it. Finally, in 1954, Congress found a non-controversial approach to child care when it approved the child-care tax deduction. This legislation enabled low to moderate income families to deduct some child care costs from their income taxes provided that the child care services were needed to permit the taxpayer to hold gainful employment.

By the late 1960s, Congress began urging poor and low income women to enter the workforce. It did so to reduce the number of Americans receiving welfare in the form of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). In 1996, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act replaced AFDC. Though more public funds for child care became available than ever before, problems of supply and quality continue to limit access to child care for welfare recipients who are compelled to take employment. Moderate income families must cope with ever-rising cost for child care. For all families, the quality of child care is compromised by the high rate of turnover in the field as the result of low pay and poor benefits.

**FURTHER RESOURCES**

**Books**


---

**Come to Denver**

*The Chance of Your Lifetime*

**Advertisement**

*By: Anonymous*  
*Date: 1953*  
*Source: Photo by MPI/Getty Images.*

**About the Author:** Getty Images is a provider of photographs, film footage, and digital content, including current and historical photographs and political cartoons. The photographer is unknown.

**INTRODUCTION**

The arrival of European explorers and settlers in North America set the stage for numerous conflicts, none more significant than the clash fueled by the two cultures’ differing views on property ownership. To the Europeans, real estate was an asset to be owned, bought, sold, and exploited for profit, while the Native Americans viewed land as a public asset. This fundamental difference in understanding led to numerous conflicts as explorers attempted to buy, and in some cases take, land from the natives, who failed to grasp the significance of the transactions they were being offered.

As the open ranges of North America were carved into farms, ranches, and estates, the indigenous people found themselves being gradually confined to small sections of their previous migratory ranges. In some cases they attacked settlers in an attempt to regain the use of their lands, while in others they pursued legal action against the government. Beginning in 1786, Indian tribes ceding land to the U.S. government kept or “reserved” a portion of the land for their own use. These “reservations” were intended to become the
COME TO DENVER

THE CHANCE OF YOUR LIFETIME!

**Good Jobs**
- Retail Trade
- Manufacturing
- Government-Federal, State, Local
- Wholesale Trade
- Construction of Buildings, Etc.

**Happy Homes**
- Beautiful Houses
- Many Churches
- Exciting Community Life
- Over Half of Homes Owned by Residents
- Convenient Stores-Shopping Centers

**Training**
- Vocational Training
  - Auto Mech, Beauty Shop, Drafting,
  - Nursing, Office Work, Watchmaking
- Adult Education
  - Evening High School, Arts and Crafts
  - Job Improvement, Home-making

**Beautiful Colorado**
- "Tallest" State, 48 Mt. Peaks Over 14,000 Ft.
- 350 Days Sunshine, Mild Winters
- Zoos, Museums, Mountain Parks, Drives
- Picnic Areas, Lakes, Amusement Parks
- Big Game Hunting, Trout Fishing, Camping

**Come to Denver:** This 1953 advertisement is intended to encourage Native Americans to leave their reservations and move to urban areas where there would be more opportunities for education and employment. PHOTO BY MPI/GETTY IMAGES.
Indians’ new homes as they transitioned from a nomadic life to a fixed agricultural existence.

During the 1800’s the federal government took greater liberties in confiscating Indian land and relocating the residents, sometimes by force. A report prepared in 1908 by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs listed 161 separate reservations in the United States, covering a total land area of 52 million acres. Life on these reservations was starkly different than Indian life before. With no experience as farmers many Indians found the new lifestyle frustrating and distasteful, and in time the reservations became centers of poverty and illiteracy. Numerous solutions were tried and numerous initiatives launched but despite federal financial support the reservations remained poverty-stricken and backward.

Through the decades numerous efforts were made to improve the lives of Native Americans, some urging them to remain on the reservations, others encouraging them to move. Some cities, recognizing the limited opportunity on the reservations and needing laborers to fuel their growing economies, began recruiting Indians to leave the reservations and relocate.
Despite decades of effort, Indian reservations in the early twenty-first century remain among the poorest and least healthy regions in the United States. The 1990 census found almost two million Native Americans and native Alaskans living in the United States; of that total almost 400,000 live on reservations. Across the country Native Americans have the highest rates of unemployment, poverty, and health problems of any ethnic group. A study conducted from 1991 to 2000 found that Native American residents of the Warm Springs Reservation in Oregon were living an average of only 47 years, significantly less than the Oregon average of 74 years. While the leading cause of death for all Americans is heart disease, a study of 5,000 Native Americans in Oregon found that the leading cause of death was automobile accidents, seventy-two percent of which involved alcohol. Researchers continue probing the reasons for native Americans’ lower life expectancies.

Shannon County, South Dakota, has the unpleasant distinction of being the poorest county in the nation. In 1997 the county, populated mostly by Native Americans, had an unemployment rate of 80 percent and a per capita income of less than $3,500. Many of the residents live in surplus army housing moved to the reservation in the 1960s. While many of the houses should be condemned, tribal leaders are reluctant to do so, because such a decision would leave the residents homeless. In some houses residents without electricity run extension cords from neighboring homes to provide winter heat.

American Indian reservations share many of the social and economic problems faced in most inner city areas, including high crime rates, poor health, and deteriorating infrastructure. While the United States provides ongoing financial assistance to Indian tribes, these programs lack strong political backing, and in recent years have experienced funding cuts. The large number of Native Americans on reservations makes most potential solutions extremely expensive, and decades of failure have created skepticism that the problems can be solved at all.

Despite numerous failures, efforts to improve Native Americans’ lives continue. In 2005, the American Indian College Fund launched an unlikely ad campaign encouraging young Native Americans to remain on reservations and complete their education at tribal colleges. These institutions, offering tribal cultural education along with traditional academic subjects, provide an unexpected benefit: Statistics show that students who attend these colleges are several times more likely to graduate than those who leave the reservation to attend a university.

The International Ladies’ Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) was founded in 1900. Throughout much of its history the ILGWU was one of America’s largest and most influential unions. In the