

Native Prayer

They took our Native tongue language away.

They teach our young the English language.

They took our culture away,

Teach the young that their culture is wrong.

They take away our forest

so we don't have the herbs to heal our sick,

so we have to have modern medicines to heal our sick.

They took our kids away from us

because we were teaching them about their culture.

Police would hurt us because we were different,

lock us up, throw away the key.

They would make laws that we couldn't do our special

dancing.

They took our way of life and destroyed it

by taking our kids away from us

and teaching them

their way of life.

We must bring our culture back to our young ones.

Young ones can understand their cultures and carry

on their cultures.

—Alice Rogers (published in *Let's Face It!*)