

LANGUAGE PLANNING AND POLICY IN NATIVE AMERICA

History, Theory, Praxis

Teresa L. McCarty (University of California, Los Angeles)

In terms of both the breadth and depth of scholarship Teresa L. McCarty's Language Planning and Policy in Native America is an extraordinary contribution. The work of those in Native language revitalization, the perspectives of a number of academic disciplines as well as education and Native language policy development are uniquely and artfully brought together in this volume by a scholar whose career has had significant involvement and contribution in each area.

David Beaulieu, Electa Quinney Institute for American Indian Education, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA

Grounding her position in the principles of tribal sovereignty, McCarty provides an insightful, thoroughly investigated, and critical examination of the complexities of Native American language rights and change. She deconstructs commonly held perceptions and theoretical positions of language change and re-introduces us to the multifaceted and resilient qualities of Native peoples and their languages in our contemporary world.

Tiffany S. Lee, Native American Studies, University of New Mexico, USA

This work is a beautiful testimonial to this historic time when Native American communities are taking control of their own linguistic futures. In contrast to the view of language policy as primarily a top-down set of regulations from various levels of government and authorities, McCarty recognizes the primacy of tribal sovereignty, and puts together a new and exciting approach to LPP in Native America as indigenous and community-driven. This inspired and hopeful volume provides a theoretical analysis of the history of oppression and subsequent reclamation of Native American languages, combined with current case studies and a view to the future through the eyes of indigenous youth. A must-read for community language activists and all those interested in language revitalization.

Leanne Hinton, University of California at Berkeley, USA

Description

Comprehensive in scope yet full of ethnographic detail, this book examines the history of language policy by and for Native Americans, and contemporary language revitalization initiatives. Offering a critical-theory view and emphasizing the perspectives of revitalizers themselves, the book explores innovative language regeneration projects, the role of Indigenous youth in language reclamation, and prospects for Native American language and culture continuance.

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Foreword by Richard E. Littlebear

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Author Information

Teresa L. McCarty is the George F. Kneller Chair in Education and Anthropology at the University of California, Los Angeles, and the Alice Wiley Snell Professor Emerita of Education Policy Studies at Arizona State University. An educational anthropologist and applied linguist, she has worked with Indigenous education programs throughout North America. Her books include *A Place To Be Navajo—Rough Rock and the Struggle for Self-Determination in Indigenous Schooling* (2002); *Language, Literacy, and Power in Schooling* (2005); *“To Remain an Indian”: Lessons in Democracy from a Century of Native American Education* (with K. T. Lomawaima, 2006), and *Ethnography and Language Policy* (Routledge, 2011).

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