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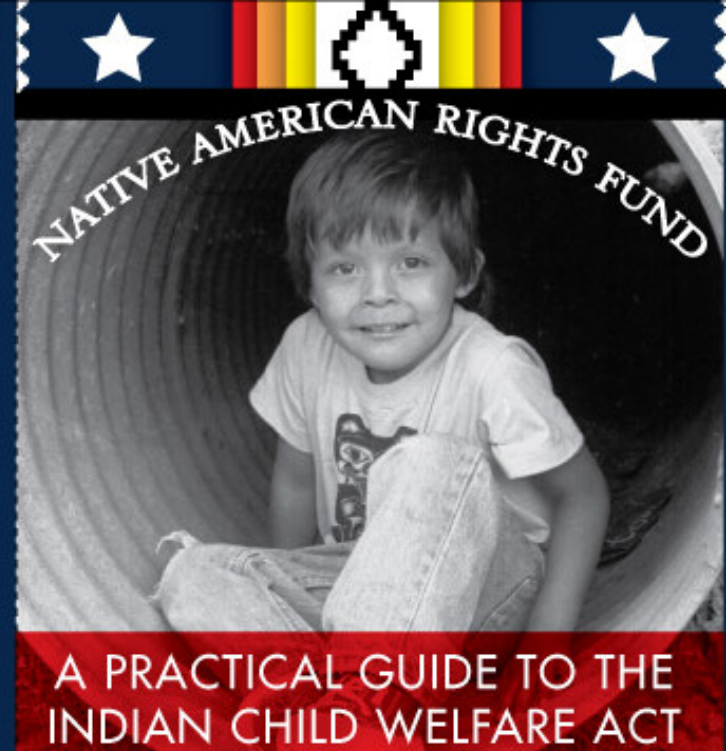
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A Practical Guide to the Indian Child Welfare Act

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), enacted in 1978, is designed to prevent the break up of Indian families by promoting the best interest of Indian children and to protect the stability and integrity of Indian tribes. It does so by establishing minimum federal procedural, substantive and jurisdictional standards. To gain a basic understanding of the ICWA and to access information to expand that understanding, the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) has created a comprehensive Guide to the ICWA. The Guide, available in both print and online, is a new powerful resource tool for tribal, state, and federal entities involved in Indian child custody proceedings. The Guide consists of an Introduction, Frequently Asked Questions and a wealth of ICWA resources.

The Practical Guide contains frequently asked questions with answers falling under 22 topics, including the following:

- Application of the ICWA
- Jurisdiction
- Who has rights under the Act
- Intervention
- Role of tribal courts
- Tribal/state agreements
- Foster placement & removal
- Provision of services
- Access to records
- Adoption
- Application of other federal laws
- Compliance/non-compliance
- Application of state law
- Resources

The online addition also contains more than 1,000 full-text resources, including:

Federal materials (laws, legislative history, regulations, guidelines, reports, case law)
State materials (case law, statutes, regulations, court rules, guides)
Sample forms
Bibliography
Training materials
Flowcharts
Contact information (bar associations, Indian law clinics, legal services)

To access or download a free copy of NARF's Practical Guide to the Indian Child Welfare Act please visit:
www.narf.org/icwa