

Richard Simonelli

I first met Richard Simonelli through our mutual involvement in the Native American Wellbriety Movement, and, more specifically, through our collaborations with Don Coyhis and White Bison, Inc. Richard and I share much in common—our devotion to recovery advocacy, political activism, a passion for writing, and a desire to find a way as white men to contribute to cultural revitalization movements within diverse communities of color. It was from Richard I learned that one can lead by listening and serve as much sitting in shadow as standing on a sunlit stage. I think of Richard as a man of peace and as a dear friend. I am a much better person for having known him.

For years, Richard and I have served as a sounding board for each other—sharing thoughts on our work and our lives. The attached paper is one of my favorites of Richard's personal writings.

William White
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