

I am White Mountain Apache and Navajo, I am a granddaughter of a World War II Veteran. He explained to me at a very young age that he did not fight for the United States government but for his White Mountain Apache people. He went on into further detail into why he decided to join the army, the main reason was so his family would have the freedom and access to amenities many Anglo families had in America at the time. My grandfather wanted his family to have the natural born Rights and freedom of being American, he emphasized education, voting, and using those gifts for the good of our White Mountain Apache people.

Due to his words on the matter, it has been instilled in me to read, learn and educate myself in the affairs at a local, state and national level. I try my best to research and have an unbiased opinion on issues, laws or ordinances that are being presented on all levels of government. After researching or finding answers, I inform my family and friends on the topics presented at every level in the government. I encourage my family and friends to read laws, State and Tribal Constitutions to understand all forms of government.

I believe as a Native American woman it is a true blessing to be able to vote and have my voice heard. This was something that was not easily available to many of my ancestors, even though many of them fought and defended the United States Government in various wars. The Native American right to vote is in its infancy, many Native American's currently do not understand the different levels of government or legislative terms. Thankfully to many men and women, who fought in wars, fought for Native American rights, fought for Indian rights we are granted this gift.

I encourage the importance of voting on my social media platforms, one key point I emphasize is many Native American Veterans fought for this freedom and many of our ancestors did not get this chance to make change occur. Native American people were always told we are inferior and our ideas or voice does not matter, according to several reports issued by the state of Arizona the recent 2020 Presidential election results depicted otherwise, Native American's vote turned the state blue for the first time in years. Our voice is important, we are important, and our voices can lead to change for the betterment of our Indigenous lands, people and future generations.