

Language Planning and Policy in Native America

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History, Theory, Praxis

Teresa L. McCarty

Foreword by

Richard E. Littlebear

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Front cover: Winona Castillo, age 13, and Hubert McCord, age 84, of the Fort Mojave Tribe of Needles, California. Mr. McCord is the only male tribal member who is a fluent singer of Mojave bird songs, a core cultural expression. Through a community-driven language documentation project focused on the bird songs, he and other Elders are teaching the language to Mojave youth like Winona (see p. 181). Mr. McCord's gesture in the photograph signifies affection, pride, and a forward-looking optimism for the next generation. It also conveys this book's larger message that language revitalization is not about 'saving' languages in an abstract sense, but is about strengthening intergenerational relationships and building community. Special appreciation goes to Hubert McCord, Winona Castillo, Katherine Castillo, and Natalie Diaz of the Fort Mojave Tribe, and to photographer Jeston Morris.

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