

Visions of Success: Indigenous Theory of Educational Persistence

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PrettyPaint, I. (2007) Theory on
Educational Persistence.

It's Impossible to...

- **Return from where you have not been**
- **Share experiences you have not had**
- **Teach what you don't know**
- **Give what you don't live**
- **Lead where you don't go**

Why Student Success?

- **History of Indian Education**
- **Mainstream Retention Research**
- **Longitudinal Resilience Research**
- **Twin Cities Healthy Nations Study**
- **Montana Tribal College Survey**
- **Family Education Model (FEM)**
- **Theory on Educational Persistence (2007)**

PrettyPaint, I. (2007) Theory on Educational Persistence.

STUDENT DEPARTURE FACTORS (Tinto, 1987)

- Academic Difficulty
- Adjustment Problems
- Lack of Clear Academic and Career Goals
- Uncertainty
- Lack of Commitment
- Poor Integration with the College Community
- Incongruence
- Isolation

Student Challenges

- Child Care
- Funding
- Not aware of commitment
- Low-Income
- First-Generation
- Transportation
- Single Parenting
- Grief Issues
- Family Violence
- Housing
- Substance Abuse
- Family Illness
- Academic Unpreparedness
- Study Skills
- Time Management

Protective Factors



Opportunities for Participation



High Expectations



At Least One Caring Person

Retention Questions

- How do you define student success?
- How do you track student success?
- What retention activities on your campus are effective?
- How do you know they are effective?
- How do you report student success?
- Why do you need to improve retention?

Healthy Nations Study (1996)

- Prayer
- Ceremony
- Tribal Identity
- Tribal Language
- Sobriety
- Extended Family
- Other Native Professionals

Tribal College Student Survey (1998)

- 1. Family Support**
- 2. Surrogate Tribal College Family**
- 3. Caring Staff/Faculty**
- 4. Friends**
- 5. Spirituality**
- 6. Ceremonies**
- 7. Sense of Humor**

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FAMILY EDUCATION MODEL

- Cultural Family Activities
- Counseling Strategies
- Life Skills
- Mentoring

Indian Country in the Year 1492

Indian Country Today 500 Years After Columbus



What would have to exist within our culture
for us to still be here today?

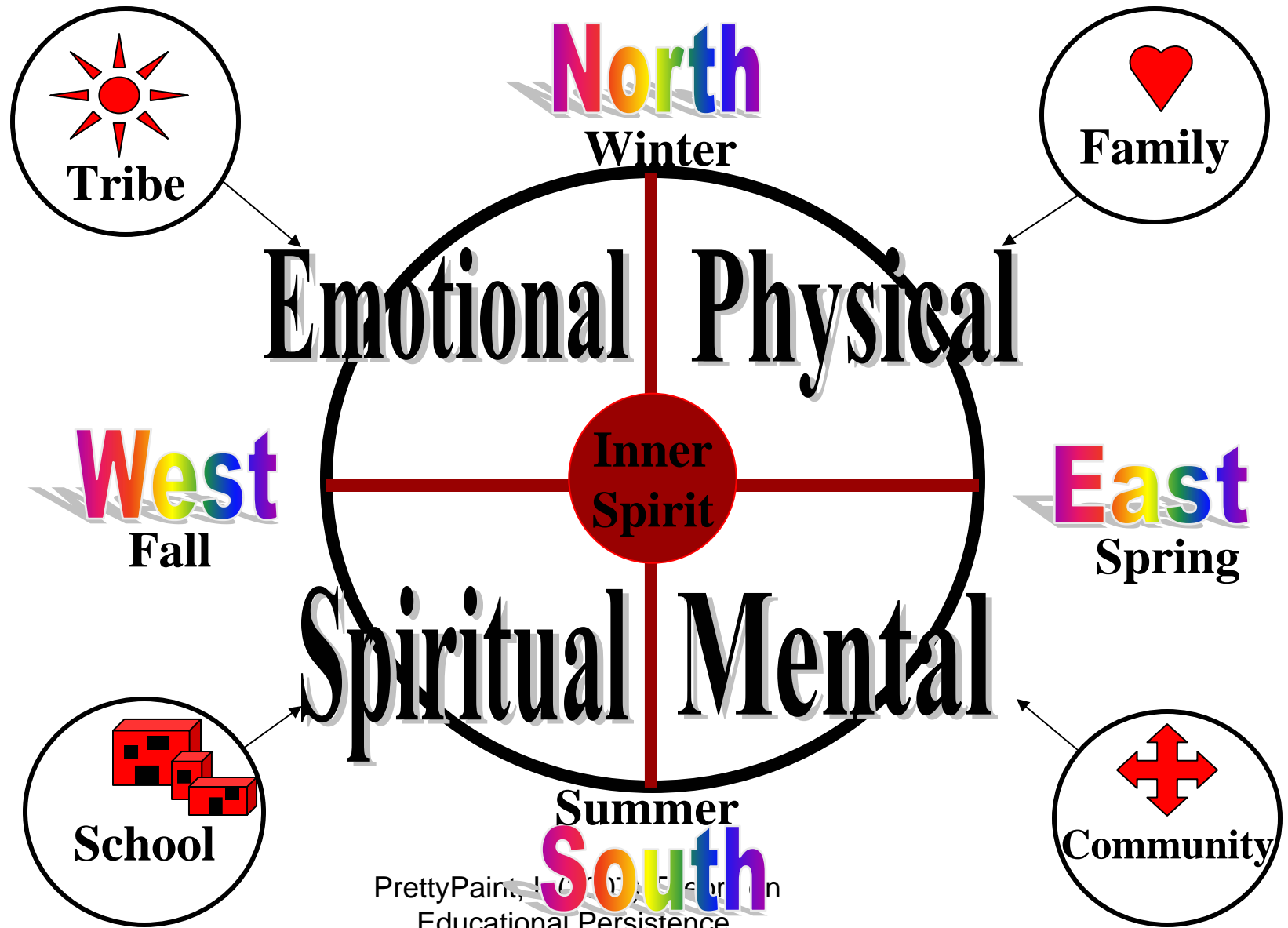
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Cultural Context

- **Alcohol & Disease**
- **Genocide**
- **Oppression**
- **Colonization**
- **Resistance**
- **Treaty**
- **Allotment**
- **Assimilation Policies**
- **Poverty**
- **Relocation**
- **Sovereignty**
- **Federal-State-Tribal Relations**
- **Federal Recognition**
- **Cultural Revitalization**
- **Political and Economic Self-Determination**

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Worldview Philosophy



Core Values

- Sense of Place
- Centrality of Family & Community
- Personal Sovereignty
- Tribal Sovereignty

My Key Questions

- Role of Tribal Culture
- Role of Identity
- Noticed Changes
- Ideal Learning Environment
- Staff Support (Unsupportive)
- Manage and Integrate

PrettyPaint
Theory on
Educational
Persistence

Circles of Relationships

Sense of Belonging
Sense of Humor
Reciprocity

Visions of Success

- Clear Expectations
- sense of Adaptability
- Flexibility

A Sense of Hope

- Sense of Inner Confidence and Connectedness
- Sense of Balance
- Commitment

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Visions of Success

- **Decision Making Skills**
- **Critical Thinking Skills**
- **Mentoring Strategies**

Circles of Relationships

- **Peers**
- **Counselors**
- **Retention Officer**
- **Financial Aid Officer**
- **Faculty**
- **Advisor**
- **Friends**
- **Grandchildren**
- **Children**
- **Spouse**
- **Grandparents**
- **Parents**
- **Social Events**
- **Church**
- **Spiritual Advisor**
- **Ceremonies**

Sense of Hope

- **Sense of Inner Confidence**
- **Connectedness**
- **Sense of Balance**
- **Commitment**