



## Tutors give Indian children study help, individual attention

By Charles Wieser

Every Tuesday night a volunteer program for tutoring Indian children infuses the basement of Andrews Hall with activity.

The program, Tutors of Nebraska Indian Children (TONIC), is a student organization initiated in 1969 to help increase educational opportunities for Nebraska Indian students.

TONIC provides a chance for Indian children to meet with friends of their own culture, according to Marilyn Weiland, a UNL elementary education major working with the program.

"We use educational games instead of text books and a one-to-one tutoring method," she said.

Weiland explained that most Indian students involved in TONIC need individual attention and a person to depend on. There are more than 75 children ranging from kindergarten to the tenth grade now in TONIC, she said.

There also are more than 75 UNL student volunteers and several persons from Concordia Teachers College, Seward, working on the program, she said. However, TONIC receives no university funds and is sponsored by charitable organizations.

"TONIC is not a threatening situation, because we neither judge or grade persons involved in it. I'd like to see the continuance of our students until they enter high school

and then have them turn around and do some tutoring themselves," she said.

Dixie DeCoteau, an original coordinator of TONIC, said the program has helped many of the students involved and is needed by Lincoln's Indian community.

Lloyd Ware, parent involvement assistant for Lincoln's Indian Education Unit, said that TONIC could help Indian students get on the right road in regards to their studies if handled correctly.

"If teachers in the public school system would become more involved, it could help in better locating the educational handicaps of the student," he said.

Weiland said a panel of teachers and counselors from different Lincoln schools has been scheduled to talk to the students in TONIC.

"We want to open communication between teachers and the students in our program," she said.

Ware said there are now 165 Indian students in Lincoln public schools. "We've also located 44 pre-kindergarten children," he said.

The Indian student, Weiland said, tends to withdraw from school after reaching the age of 16, the legal age to drop out of school in Nebraska. However, the Lincoln Public School system does not compute percentage drop out rates for Indian students in relation to the Indian population in Lincoln.

## Study: bystanders ignore emergencies

Two Princeton University psychologists studying what they termed "bystander behavior in emergencies," found that there are few "Good Samaritans" among college students.

In an experiment conducted by Dr. John M. Darley and Dr. C. Daniel Batson, 40 unknowing theological students were asked to prepare a three to five minute impromptu talk on a specific topic, either on vocations or on the parable of the Good Samaritan.

Equipped with a map and instructions to go to another laboratory to tape the speech, the subjects were told they were either already late for the session (the doctors call it "high-hurry condition"), were expected momentarily ("intermediate-hurry condition"), or that they could take their time ("low-hurry condition").

Then, on their way across campus, the subjects encountered a groaning, coughing "victim" slumped in a doorway.

Sixty per cent of the subjects kept right on walking.

Of the 16 students who did stop, more than 60 per cent were low-hurry subjects. Only 10 per cent of the high-hurry subjects stopped.

"A person not in a hurry may stop and offer help to a person in distress," concluded Darley and Batson. "A person in a hurry is likely to keep going. Ironically, he is likely to keep going even if he is hurrying to speak on the parable of the Good Samaritan, thus inadvertently confirming the point of the parable."

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