

**RESOLUTION OF THE  
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE  
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION**

- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe is composed of elected members who represent the people of the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** the membership of the Tribal Council is united in the common goal of improving the overall health of the Tribal members through health promotion, disease prevention, health education and improved medical therapy; and
- WHEREAS,** it is generally agreed that there may be a significant problem of sexually transmitted diseases among tribal members, but no one knows how severe the problem is because no study has yet been conducted to determine this; and
- WHEREAS,** sexually transmitted diseases can affect men, women and children, as well as the unborn, and can cause long term complications such as cancers in women, infertility, ectopic (tubal) pregnancy, and miscarriage; and
- WHEREAS,** those who have these diseases, especially women, may be without symptoms, and unaware that they should be treated, and should be educated as to how to prevent their spread; and
- WHEREAS,** Drs. Mathuram Santosham and Edward Hook of the Johns Hopkins University wish to begin a project on the White Mountain Apache Reservation, to 1) determine how bad the problem of STDs is; 2) to develop ways to prevent these infections; 3) to treat those who already may have these diseases; and 4) will attempt to identify those factors related to the risks for acquiring these diseases among tribal members; and
- WHEREAS,** in conducting this project information will be collected including: the rates of occurrence of the different types of STDs among tribal members, the risk factors for acquiring these infections, and the age distribution of these infections among Apache women; and
- WHEREAS,** this information will be collected through voluntary confidential interviews, taking single blood samples, and the performance of pelvic examinations, all of which are part of ordinary gynecologic care; and

**WHEREAS,** the Johns Hopkins Study Center has been in continuous operation at the Whiteriver Hospital since 1981 and has conducted many research projects which have resulted in dramatic reductions of a number of diseases in Apache infants, and the staff of the Study Center will conduct this project; and

**WHEREAS,** participation in this project will be voluntary, and there are no anticipated serious risks in any of the standard procedures which will be conducted; and

**WHEREAS,** the benefits to be derived will include a description of the severity of the problem of sexually transmitted diseases among White Mountain Apaches, identification of risk factors for acquiring these infections, prevention of these diseases through identification and education of groups at risk, and treatment of existing STDs.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that based on the foregoing it hereby grants approval to the Johns Hopkins Study Center to conduct the first phase of the sexually transmitted disease research project proposed by Drs. Mathuram Santosham and Edward Hook.

The foregoing resolution was on April 09, 1992, duly adopted by a vote of eight for and zero against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article V, Section 1 (a) of the Amended Constitution and Bylaws of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe June 27, 1958, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on May 29, 1958, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

  
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Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
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Secretary of the Tribal Council

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FORT APACHE INDIAN AGENCY  
WHITERIVER, ARIZONA