

No. 1955-70

To the Mayor and Common Council:

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION

File No. 1955-70 -- Resolution restraining social and welfare organizations from naming their organizations with sacred Indian names, using Indian costumes and Indian rituals.

The Equal Opportunities Commission considered the proposed resolution at its regular meeting on November 12. We feel it entirely appropriate for the Common Council to enact a statement of public policy concerning matters offensive to minority groups and which ultimately do damage to members of that minority group by hindering their opportunity to participate in American society through perpetuating stereotypes of those minority groups. In the particular instance it is American Indians.

For the above reasons the Commission has voted to recommend the following Substitute Resolution:

Be it resolved that the City of Madison requests that individuals and organizations in this City refrain from using names, dress, customs or rituals in imitation of other cultures, such as American Indian, Afro-American, Mexican-American and other ethnic groups, in a manner which is experienced as offensive by members of those ethnic groups.

70-39.  
at Dec 7-70

Robert J. Amundson  
Chairman

J. C. Wright  
Executive Director

JCW:s