

Glossary for RAFT Session 3 Courses

- **3.1 Cultural Connections**
- **3.2 Indian Child Welfare Act**
- **3.3 Parenting in a Racially Diverse Family**
- **3.4 Affirming Homes for LGBTQIA2S+ Youth**

HOW TO USE THIS GLOSSARY

This glossary explains words and terms you may see in the RAFT Session 3 courses.

Words are listed in alphabetical order (A-Z). If you see a word you don't know, look it up by the first letter of the word

Each word has a short, simple definition. Some definitions may include examples to help with understanding.

If a definition includes another bolded word, you can look up that word in the glossary too.

You can use this glossary anytime while you are learning. It's here to help you better understand the RAFT content.

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1819: Indian Removal Act

Forced Native American Tribes in the southern U.S. to move west of the Mississippi River to open Indigenous lands to colonial settlers, causing displacement and loss of homes.

1850: Donation Land Act

Encouraged white settlers to move to the Oregon Territory by granting free land, resulting in Native American Tribes being forced off their land.

1879–1968: Boarding School Era

American Indian and Alaska Native children were removed from their families and sent to boarding schools to be assimilated into western ways of life.

1950–1970: Indian Adoption Project

A campaign by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Child Welfare League of America to place Native American children with white families.

1950's: Termination Act

Ended federal support and supervision for numerous Native American Tribes in Western Oregon.

1978: Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)

A federal law passed to address high rates of removal of American Indian and Alaska Native children from their families. It established federal standards for removal and placement and requires active efforts to keep families together.

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2-Spirit

An inclusive term created by and for Native American communities describing Indigenous people who express gender or sexual orientation in non-Western ways.

Active Efforts

A higher standard than reasonable efforts in ICWA and ORICWA cases requiring Child Welfare agencies to actively work to prevent removal and reunify families.

All About Me Books

A tool used in foster care to reinforce that a child's story, culture, identity, and perspective matter.

Asexual

Describes a person who feels little or no sexual attraction to others.

Bisexual

A sexual orientation describing someone attracted to both women and men, or all genders.

Chemawa Indian School

The oldest off-reservation Indian boarding school still operating in the United States, located in Salem, Oregon.

Community Culture

Local events, schools, and sports teams that bring people together in a smaller cultural space.

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Conflicting Views

When the world views a child differently than how they see themselves, which can cause confusion.

Crown Act

Makes it illegal to discriminate against protective hairstyles such as braids, locs, twists, knots, or head coverings.

Cultural Assimilation

The process where one racial or ethnic group adopts the values, behaviors, and beliefs of the dominant group, often through pressure or force.

Cultural Curiosity

The desire to learn and understand more about people whose cultural backgrounds and experiences differ from yours.

Cultural Sandwich

A metaphor describing how cultural ingredients like values, beliefs, traditions, religion, and language shape cultural identity.

Culture

A way of life including customs, beliefs, traditions, and actions that shape how people live and connect with others.

Disproportionality

The overrepresentation or underrepresentation of a particular group in a system compared to their percentage in the general population.

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Ethnicity

The group of people you come from, including country of origin, language, religion, culture, or traditions.

Expression

How gender is expressed externally through clothing, hairstyle, mannerisms, etc.

Gay

A sexual orientation describing someone primarily attracted to people of the same sex or gender.

Gender Identity

Who you feel you are on the inside; may or may not align with sex assigned at birth.

Group Culture

Culture based on shared interests, hobbies, religion, or profession.

Hand Mapping

A tool from Richard Rose's Therapeutic Life Story work used to explore a child's cultural connections.

Home Culture

The most personal layer of culture, including family traditions and routines.

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Homophobia

Dislike or prejudice against gay people.

ICWA and ORICWA Cases

Cases that require different rules and active efforts standards compared to non-ICWA cases.

Intergenerational and Historical Trauma

Cumulative emotional and psychological wounding across generations due to loss of land, culture, language, and traditions.

Intersecting Identities

Multiple aspects of a child's identity that may increase risk of discrimination.

Intersex

Describes a person born with both male and female sex markers.

Internalized Racism

When a child begins to believe negative societal messages or stereotypes about their race.

Lesbian

A woman who has romantic or loving feelings for other women.

Microaggressions

Everyday words or actions that subtly insult someone's race, culture, or identity.

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Misgendering

Using incorrect pronouns for someone.

Nationality

The country you belong to or hold citizenship in.

National Culture

Culture shaped by shared traditions, holidays, symbols, and national identity.

Oregon Indian Child Welfare Act (ORICWA)

A state law passed in 2021 addressing the continued disproportionality of Native children in Oregon's foster care system.

Placement Matching

Matching children with homes that meet their needs.

Plus (+)

Represents identities not specifically included in LGBTQIA+ letters.

Pronouns

Words used to refer to someone without using their name (e.g., she, he, they).

Race

A socially constructed way people are grouped based on appearance, such as skin color.

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Racism

Belief that some races are superior or inferior, resulting in unfair treatment.

Regional Culture

Culture shaped by accents, regional foods, and traditions.

Self-Worth

How someone feels about themselves.

Sexual Orientation

Who someone loves or feels attraction toward.

SOGIE

Acronym for Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression.

Transgender

Describes a person whose gender identity differs from their sex assigned at birth.

Transphobia

Dislike or prejudice against trans people.

Tribal Customary Adoption

A practice where a trusted person chosen by the Tribe is given custody without terminating parental rights.

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Tribal Sovereignty

The inherent right of a Tribe to govern its own people and establish its own laws.

Questioning

A person still learning about their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Queer

An umbrella term for people whose sexual orientation or gender identity is outside societal norms.