

## Listening Session: Tribal Programs and Practices

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## Tribal Research & Evaluation at NIJ

- NIJ actively funds research & evaluation (R&E) with tribal communities
- Committed to ethical and engaged efforts in line with responsible research conduct and federal trust responsibilities



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## Understanding and Valuing Culture

- Evidence-based paradigm
  - Need for data for funding applications
  - Evaluation requirements for funding
- Not always appropriate to evaluate cultural practices using standard Western approaches

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## Potential Solution: Tribal Programs and Practices

- Development of a system or set of criteria to understand the effects of cultural practices and programs on various outcomes in a way that:
  - Respects the cultural practice itself
  - Respects tribal sovereignty
- Benefits
  - Help tribes understand benefits of culture for their citizens
  - Provide much needed data for future funding

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## Framing Questions

1. To what extent does the current “evidence-based” paradigm influence your program and practice choices?
2. How does the need for existing data or a program evaluation plan influence your decision to pursue funding opportunities?
3. What types of information would be okay to gather in order to better understand the effects of traditional cultural programs and practices on outcomes related to crime and justice?
4. How should this information be collected?

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## Framing Questions

5. Who should collect this information?
6. How should this information be used?
7. Which alternative approaches might NIJ consider when it comes to researching and evaluating programs and practices?

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# Contact

**Additional Comments:**

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**Questions or Concerns:**

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