

Multimedia Library Collection: Environmental Film Profiles (videos)

Standing Silent Nation

Hermann, Courtney, and Suree Towfighnia. *Standing Silent Nation*. Watertown: Documentary Educational Resources, Inc., 2006. HD, 53 min. <https://youtu.be/1zqB49tgjkU>.

When the Oglala Sioux Tribe passed an ordinance separating industrial hemp from its illegal cousin, marijuana, Alex White Plume and his family glimpsed a brighter future. Having researched hemp as a sustainable crop that would grow in the inhospitable soil of the South Dakota Badlands, the White Plumes envisioned a new economy that would impact the 85 percent unemployment rate on the Pine Ridge Reservation. They never dreamed they would find themselves swept up in a struggle over tribal sovereignty, economic rights, and common sense. From the hemp fields of Pine Ridge to the US Federal Court of Appeals, the one-hour documentary *Standing Silent Nation* tracks one family's effort to create economic independence for themselves, their reservation, and their future generations. (Source: [Official Film Website](#))

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This film is available at the [Rachel Carson Center Library](#) (RCC, 4th floor, Leopoldstrasse 11a, 80802 Munich) for on-site viewing only. For more information, please contact library@rcc.lmu.de.

[About the Environmental Film Profiles collection](#)

Further readings:

- Small, E. and Marcus, D. "Hemp: A new crop with new uses for North America." In *Trends in new crops and new uses*, edited by J. Janick, and A. Whipkey, 284-326. Alexandria: ASHS Press, 2002.
- Smith, Steve. "Hemp for Sovereignty: Scale, Territory and the Struggle for Native American sovereignty." *Space and Polity* 12, no. 2 (2008): 231-49. doi:10.1080/13562570802173364.

Related links:

- Bringing It Home (Film Profile)
<https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/bringing-it-home>

- Hempsters: Plant the Seed (Film Profile)
<https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/hempsters-plant-seed>

Websites linked in this text:

- <http://www.der.org/films/standing-silent-nation.html>
- <http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/index.html>
- <https://www.environmentandsociety.org/multimedia/collection/environmental-films-project>