

Greetings:

The Arizona State government has voted drastic cuts that will gut the University of Arizona, parks important to native peoples, and offices serving native peoples. These cuts, along with other factors, would cause me to recommend NOT coming to Arizona for any meetings.

Southern Arizona is a dangerous place for those with other than fair skin. The federal authorities have been deputized by the local authorities. An incredible event in American history and government. We have cameras all over the place with more ordered. Checkpoints are becoming more ubiquitous and intrusive. Arizona has invested in surveillance. We often sound and look like the militarized zone we have become. Harassment is common. I stayed at the dorms last summer for an institute and there were major health concerns from the conditions there. Arizona has been cutting public investments even during good economic times. I would expect the dorms to create even greater hazards now. The news coverage and the public rhetoric makes having brown skin dangerous.

Mike Simpson