

**Title**

Wokiksuya and You

**Level**

High School – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade American History – English Language Learners

**Theme**

Reconciliation and Forgiveness

**Duration**

Three to four 50 minute class periods

**Goal**

Students will understand the events related to the 1862 Sioux War and the Wokiksuya Ride for Reconciliation

**Objective**

Students will be able to relate the feelings of the riders to their personal situations

**Cultural Concept**

The process of remembering and honoring their ancestors are important to the Dakota people, as well as the concepts of forgiving and reconciliation.

**Cultural Background**

The uprising of 1862 began after the Dakotas in Minnesota had given up the majority of their land via treaty. After a prolonged period of drought and broken promises by the government, the Dakotas were starving. Forced to stay on the reservation land they had few options, and the War began. Following the war, 38 Dakota warriors were hung in a mass execution in Mankato Minnesota. After having a dream, a Dakota man in 2005 started a memorial ride from the Crow Creek Reservation in South Dakota to the hanging site in Mankato Minnesota.

**South Dakota Standards**

9-12.US.2.1. Students are able to describe the causes and effects of interactions between the U.S. government and Native American cultures.

11-12.W.1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

**Student Activities**

1. The class will read together, using their Chromebooks, an article summarizing the events of 1862
2. Students will watch a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the war
3. Students will view the movie, [Dakota 38](#)
4. Students will complete a writing assignment, answering the following questions.
  - What injustices have been suffered by your people, your family or yourselves over the years?
  - Have you reconciled or forgiven these wrongs? How?
  - What would it take for you to reconcile or forgive?

**Resources**

The Sioux Uprising of 1862 <http://www.d.umn.edu/~bart0412/project.htm>

Teacher prepared PowerPoint

Dakota 38, Smooth Feather Productions [http://smoothfeather.com/dakota38/?page\\_id=112](http://smoothfeather.com/dakota38/?page_id=112)

**Developer**

Robert Sivertson

Robert.sivertson@k12.sd.us

**Date**

July 24, 2014