



CULTURAL APPROPRIATION

A SNAPSHOT OF CAMP FIRE'S HISTORY

THE NAME BOOK

Camp Fire Girls were encouraged to choose their own “Indian names” from the very beginning with founders Luther and Charlotte Gulick having their own “chosen Indian names.” In 1915 Charlotte Gulick published “A LIST OF INDIAN WORDS” from which girls can derive their Camp Fire names,” later known simply as *The Name Book*. Participants were to “... abbreviate and change the spelling of names to suit one’s taste. Make up combinations of two or more Indian names...Take names from other languages.”



KNOWING BETTER DOING BETTER

Many Camp Fire properties have or have had names that were created directly from the Name Book. **We now understand that this is a glaring example of cultural appropriation.**

WOHELO

Similarly, Camp Fire National will no longer use the watchword “WoHeLo” as we recognize that it was created specifically to mimic Native and Indigenous language. We still hold true to our values of Work, Health, and Love, but we will be spelling it out moving forward.



BOOK OF SYMBOLS

Alongside *The Name Book*, *A Book of Symbols for Camp Fire Girls* was published. Participants created their own symbols by combining, editing, and “making them their own”. The symbols were meant to appear to be of Native origin, many of them copying Native symbols directly without any reference to the tribe from which it came. In 2022, Camp Fire National released new Emblem designs to replace images previously used for awards and recognition.

