

Problems Inherent in the Dawes Act

- 1. Natives had no experience with land ownership. Individuals sold land to whites for too little money.
- 2. Much of the land on reservations available for allotment was too poor for sustainable agriculture.
- 3. The government kept resource-rich land and allotted poor parcels.
- 4. The elimination of communal tribal relationships undermined traditional family and social structures and replaced them with relationships dominated by white prejudice, starvation-level poverty and alcohol.