

## PRELIMINARY COMPARISON OF DINÉ AND WESTERN RESEARCH ASSUMPTIONS

Larry W Emerson (2013), updated 2016)

ATTRIBUTE	DINÉ CONCEPTS		WESTERN/MODERN CONCEPTS
Governance and self-determination	Possess pre-American, pre-colonized, non-western, non-modern sense of sovereignty		Governance rooted mostly in imperialism, colonialism, racism, gender inequity, desacralized action
Values, ethics, worldview	Sacred knowledge and life		Desacralized knowledge; secularism
Values / Ethics, worldview	Earth-Sky centered (value of non-human life); spiritual ecological self, k'é		Human-centered (devaluation & neutralization of non-human life)
Life way outlook; worldview	Matriarchal		Patriarchal
Life way outlook	Always concerned with harmony, balance, beauty, happiness and peaceful outcomes		Power, control, wealth, conquest, manipulation, exploitation connected with colonialism, capitalism, patriarchy, etc
Social norms	Home, family, extended family, clan ship, subsistence and community values and emphasis		Clubs, organizations, fitness centers, coffee shops, fraternities, sororities, athletic events, neighborhoods, etc. k'é doo hózhó being absent and unknown
Nature of knowing & being	Assumes relationship between the metaphysical and physical	<b>A R E A</b>	Relationship between the physical and physical
Social norms	Kinship, family, extended family, clan ship and community	<b>O F</b>	Individualism valued over collective
Values / Ethics / Metaphorical	Cooperative (win- win)	<b>L I V I N G</b>	Competitive (win – lose)
Values / Ethics / Metaphoric	Conservation		Expansion
Values / Ethics / Metaphoric	Quality centered	<b>I N</b>	Quantity centered
Values / Ethics / Metaphoric	Partnership and community	<b>T W O -</b>	Domination
Structural / Values / Ethics / Metaphoric	Non-hierarchal; heter-archical (e.g. small hierarchies situated in four directions to distributes decision-making and sustain community	<b>W O R L D</b>	Hierarchical
Motion	Non-linear, cyclical, circular replication of cosmos	<b>S</b>	Linear and denatured
Social, psychological economic, political	Interdependent relations based on respect, compassion, love		Independent relations, compartmentalized, siloed, top-down orientation

Social, psychological, economic, political	Co-reliant		Self-reliant
Social, psychological, economic, political	Collective wellbeing		Individual wellbeing
Social	Assets based		Pathologic based
Law or social rules for living	Restorative, revitalizing, regenerative healing		Punitive: jails, courts, juries, judges, punishment orientation
Psychological	Wholistic: seamless relationship between mind, body, emotions, spirit and home		Cognitive: analysis, desacralized, linear, denatured, male centered, clinical
Thought	Integrative: mindful action for collective wellbeing, includes cosmological awareness and respect		Self-assertive: boots straps thinking coupled with independent thinking
Thought	Intuitive, wholistic		Rational, individualistic, denatured
Thought	Synthesis		Analysis
Thought	Relational		Categorical, classification