

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE  
QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

Question	Answer
Can ICW intervene on private custody matters?	No
Can ICW hire an attorney for private custody matters?	No
Can ICW take custody away from the Department of Human Services (DHS)?	ICW has the discretion to ask for a transfer but a parent, case worker, or either Judge of state or CFR court may object to the transfer.
How do I become a foster/adoptive parent?	Contact the ICW office to request a foster care/adoption packet, the applicant must pass a criminal background check, finger printing, and home study.
Is there a cost for becoming an adoptive parent?	No. ICW is not an adoption agency.
Do grandparents have rights to get visitation when a grandchild is taken into custody of DHS?	No. In the State of Oklahoma, the Supreme Court has ruled that grandparents do not have visitation rights.
Does ICW intervene on behalf of the parents?	No. ICW intervenes and advocates for the best interest of the child.
Who do we report abuse/neglect to?	You may report to the ICW office or the DHS abuse hotline.