



There is a crisis amongst our tribal nations of missing and murdered indigenous women, and we will be forever haunted by our failure to act on their behalf. I thank the Global Indigenous Council for their efforts to bring attention and solutions to this issue, including the recent convening of the MMIW Tribunal.

The United States government must act swiftly and decisively, in partnership with tribal nations, to ensure indigenous women live without fear of violence. As President, I will immediately convene an inter-agency task force to address the crisis of violence against women and close the gaps in data sharing; I will work with Congress to overturn the Supreme Court's decision in *Oliphant* -- providing tribal courts with the jurisdiction to protect tribal members from non-tribal perpetrators of violent crime and sexual assault; and I will uphold our treaty obligations to allow them to remove bad actors from their reservations and provide resources to protect witnesses. My Administration will also ensure tribal law enforcement has the support to patrol their extensive lands, that they are treated with respect, and that their authority over their land is recognized by their partners in state and local law enforcement.

And most importantly, though I will ensure the U.S government continues to act, I will listen to the needs of tribal nations in ending this crisis, responding to their recommendations and experiences. Only when we work together will we ensure real change occurs.

*Beto O'Rourke*

**Congressman Beto O'Rourke,  
2020 Democratic Presidential Candidate.**