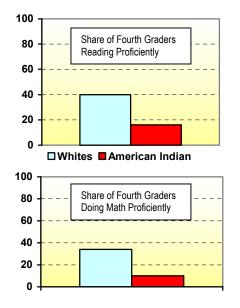
REACHING OUT...

The Challenge: The achievement gap is the difference among the academic performance of different ethnic groups. Even though schools are now desegregated, public education has failed to deliver the promise of a quality education to Native Americans.

The Solution: Attack the soft bigotry of low expectations and demand that schools close the achievement gap between Native Americans and whites.

HOW NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND WILL RAISE RESULTS FOR ALL



No Child Left Behind is an unprecedented commitment and focuses not on money, but on results.

For the first time in the history of the world, a civilization has said that we are going to educate *every* child. We will provide every American boy and girl with a quality education—regardless of ethnicity, income or background.

Educating every child is the greatest moral challenge of our time.

- On the 2000 National Assessment of Educational Progress reading assessment, 40 percent of white fourth graders scored at or above proficient, compared to only 17 percent of their Native American counterparts.
- In math, Native American achievement also lagged: 34 percent of white fourth graders scored at or above proficient. Just 14 percent of Native Americans scored as high.
- > The racial achievement gap is real, and it is not shrinking.

We must test all groups of students, so we can target the achievement gap, define it and attack it with the full knowledge and support of our communities.

The president is committed to attacking the achievement gap, not hiding it within school or statewide averages. That's why he wants each school to examine achievement every year in third through eighth grades by race, ethnicity, economic background and disabilities. That way we won't leave any group or child behind.

