

Give Rights to Native Women, Children: Gravel

WRANGELL—United States Senate candidate Mike Gravel this week called for an overhauling of archaic laws which contribute to depriving native women and children of their rights.

"Under our present laws," Gravel said, "a native woman who marries a white man automatically loses her rights and privileges as a native."

"Native children who are adopted by white parents also lose their native rights."

"I am not a lawyer, but I don't think it takes legal training to recognize this as a cruel and unjust law."

"Punishing native orphans and making their adoption difficult is an inane method of dealing with this problem," Gravel said.

"It is time those of us who recognize the inequities in our present regulations governing native assistance do something to rectify the situation."