

J. Richard Johnson Bio

J. Richard Johnson is a PhD sociologist, management consultant, statistical engineer, and longtime college professor whose career has spanned decades of research, teaching, and applied work at the intersection of data, human behavior, and organizational strategy.

He developed a passionate interest in Native American history at age ten and maintained it throughout his life, thanks to his mother, a Cherokee mixed-blood, who was born in a Chickasaw hospital in Tishomingo, Oklahoma. Her dad, who claimed to be half Cherokee and looked the part, had been working as a mechanic in Chickasaw territory at the time. She transmitted what little she knew of Cherokee culture to Johnson, mostly unintentionally, as he grew up.

It was enough to make him curious, but that curiosity, and decades of research, hardened into something closer to outrage. He dreamed of writing a book that would show a different picture of Native Americans from what he had read about in high school textbooks or saw in cowboy-and-Indian movies made in the '50s and '60s.

He dreamed about correcting this warped vision of our history, some way, somehow, and someday.

"Tenkiller: The Path" is the result of that dream.