

# Mother to Mother: I Didn't Know but now I Do

Karen Kuhnert

I had heard of Indian Residential Schools  
I thought they were sleep away schools, boarding schools

I didn't know they took you  
I didn't know you had to go, and had to stay  
I didn't know you might have been only six years old

I didn't know men, women and classmates assaulted you  
I didn't know you conceived  
I didn't know you birthed and they buried your babies  
I didn't know.

But now I Do.

So my vow is to see you as a persevering Survivor  
My vow is to tell people you have a story worth hearing  
My vow is to listen and be different until we are both free

