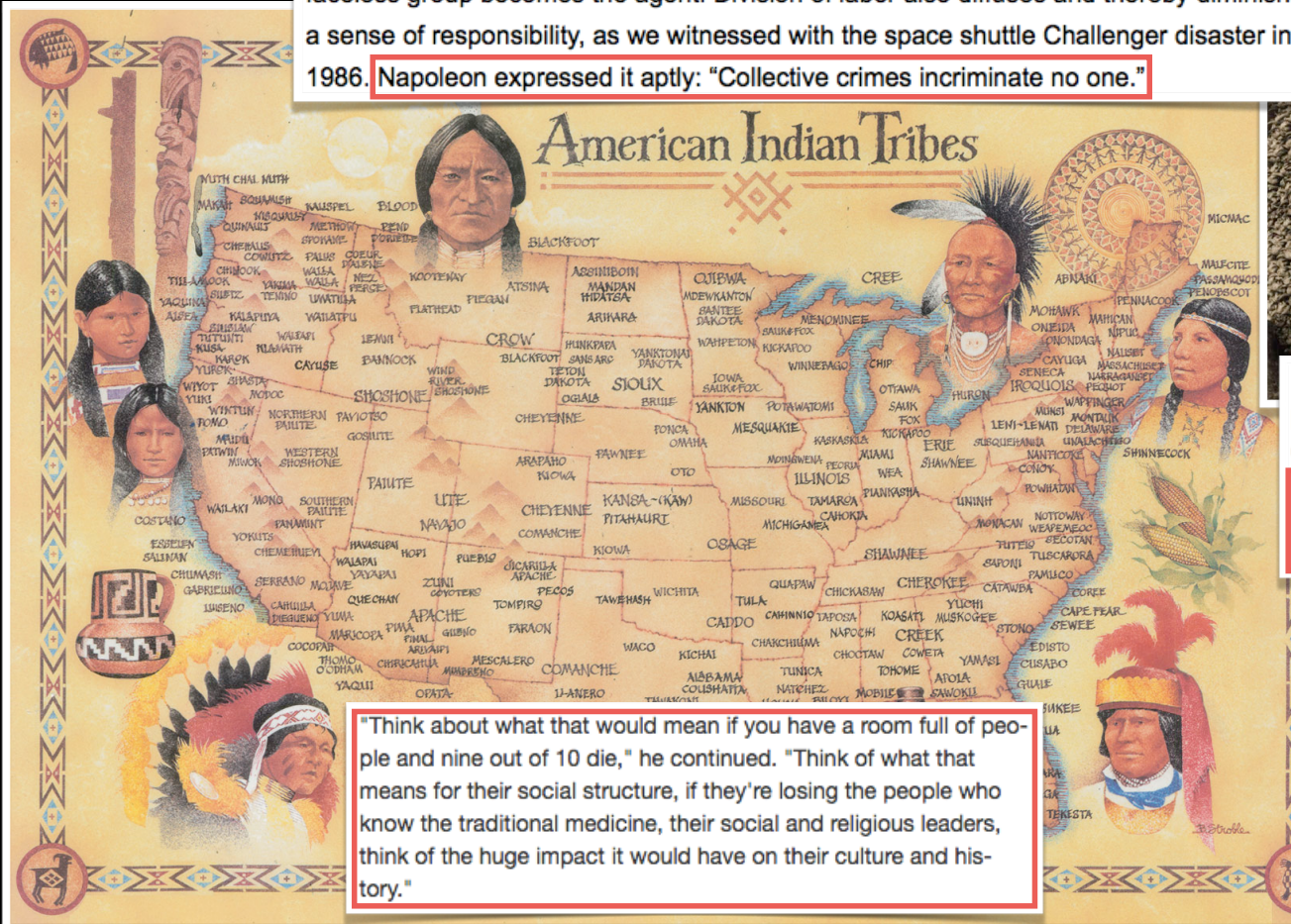


It's easy to get people to do bad things, and this might be why

Moral control is also weakened when responsibility for detrimental behavior is widely diffused. This is accomplished by group decision making. In "groupthink," the faceless group becomes the agent. Division of labor also diffuses and thereby diminishes a sense of responsibility, as we witnessed with the space shuttle Challenger disaster in 1986. Napoleon expressed it aptly: "Collective crimes incriminate no one."



"Think about what that would mean if you have a room full of people and nine out of 10 die," he continued. "Think of what that means for their social structure, if they're losing the people who know the traditional medicine, their social and religious leaders, think of the huge impact it would have on their culture and history."



"In the Southwest, first contact between native people and Europeans occurred in 1539," Liebmann said. "We found that disease didn't really start to take effect until after 1620, but we then see a very rapid depopulation from 1620 to 1680. (The death rate) was staggeringly high -- about 87 percent of the Native population died in that short period."

