

HST 201: History of United States F17 (Escobar Meta 20887 23004)

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Columbus Podcast and Article

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Columbus Podcast and Article

by Joe Escobar - Thursday, September 28, 2017, 9:44 AM

This thread is for discussions on the Columbus Podcast and Article topic.

To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post. To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

IMPORTANT - SUBJECT LINES

BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post. Use a title to describe what questions you are addressing. Do NOT simply leave it RE: Columbus Podcast and Article

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Sinner nor Saint

by Casandra Fountain - Friday, September 29, 2017, 6:12 PM

I found it interesting how hot of a topic Columbus Day is around the United States. Moreover how it differs from one ethic group to another and generation to generation. The Columbus Podcast, *Backstory* references a Columbus Day parade protest that took place in San Francisco. At 1:40 it talks about how the Italian American population are proud to celebrate the day in Columbus' name where as the American Indian population is not. And towards the end of the podcast one of the speakers, a Floridan, is proud of the Spanish conquistadors (17:25) and another speaker states it may have not been that way if you were born in the 19th century instead of 20th century.

I agreed with most of what was said between the article and podcast. A quote that stands out to me is from the article, *Celebrating Columbus, Brave and Bright*, "we should judge him [Columbus] by the standards of that age, regardless of how we assess them today... he was desperately ambitious and something of a social climber... he was motivated by glory and greed and evangelical favor, as was most of the world" People tend not to take into account how the world was like centuries before our time. They weren't the progressive thinkers of today, instead it was what do I have to do to survive. Yes, there is a slue of things Columbus did and introduced to the New World that was harmful and destructive but it does not take away that his voyages mattered. Cooke states "It [Columbus's first voyage] was the first to lead to a permanent settlement and the first enduring landing from a civilization that boasted modern ideas such as belief in science, reason, individual achievement, and Christianity." Columbus's voyages were just the beginning of what would lead to the founding of our nation.

The article put into light the present day thinking of Christopher Columbus how people credit his accomplishments or lack there of. It also explained that it was a two way street for some things such as the disease spreading and not to blame him completely because of the time he lived in and that he should still be recognized for his discoveries. I feel the podcast had a little more to offer about Columbus's backstory and the initial encounters he had with the natives. They went on to try to understand why some see Columbus as more popular and vise versus with Spanish conquistadors. And I took away that it may be because of Columbus's mixed origin (14:40). But also because America's multi-imperial origin and the large hispanic population, we are starting to incorporate the Spanish conquistadors back into the mix and Columbus is fading away(16:30). I don't think this is the last of the debate on Columbus along with many other pioneers throughout our history.

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3



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Christoper Columbus: A Hatred Man Or A Father Of America Continient

by Tuan Tran - Friday, September 29, 2017, 8:07 PM

The "Celebrating Columbus, Brave, and Bright" describes Columbus as the "accident" man to discover the North America continent and Columbus also misrecognized the Bahamas as the India "When he eventually bumped into land, he thought that he was in India," but", as the song explains, accurately this time, " India the land was not./ It was the Bahamas, and it was hot" (3). However, it illustrates Columbus is a man who is being charged with a man bringing the European disease to be the main factor decreasing the ancient Indian American's population and a slave transporter during his second voyage while he was the Hispaniola governor. Columbus also was known as "the leader of those men who " killing, terrorizing, afflicting, and torturing the native people" in order to stop them having the freedom mind" (8). According to the " Christopher Columbus and the New World" journal, people are charging him as " far from being the pioneer process of progress and enlightenment, was, in fact, the pioneer of oppression, racism, slavery, rape, theft, vandalism, extermination, and ecological desolation" (4), people find controversially to consecrate Columbus as the America's Father or The America Apocalypse Creator. After listening from the Columbus podcast, I realized that Columbus legacy is good for Italian Americans and the bad omen for the Indian, Latino Americans- even if the actor is not the real Columbus, Indian, and Latino people still throwing the fruits and dirty stuff to his festival parade.

In my opinion, Columbus is the good symbol represents for those who devote their lives exploring the new definitions to help the humanity and the most effect reflection to assist people who have hopes to change the world even he is the man who is being charged with a

lot of sins. Without Columbus or other travelers, we would not see the USA or other America countries as recently. On the other hand, nobody contributes to the World War 1 or 2, Viet Nam War to sell their weapons or make their youth to sacrifice for the non-profit battlefields.

What Do You Think? An Enthusiastic Explorer who soon becomes the Father of America or The Evil Bastard who will bring chaos to the old civilization of Indian Americans?



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Is Columbus really to blame?

by Banyan Ryan - Sunday, October 1, 2017, 6:06 PM

The riot that took place back in 1992 in celebration of Columbus Day makes it very clear that a large amount of people see this man as responsible for mass genocide and should not have a holiday in which to celebrate him. I myself have even heard at many points in my life that Columbus Day is the equivalent to having a Hitler Day and that it should be discarded from our calendars. But as I learn more about him, the more I realize he had basically no involvement in our nation's history outside of just being the first European sailor to land ashore.

During the podcast, Horwitz explains how after coming in contact with North America (believing it was Asia), he didn't seem hostile towards the natives and only wanted the Asian spices he thought were there. Yes, he does write in his journal that these people could easily be turned into slaves, but there doesn't seem to be any record of him personally ordering the mistreatment of any natives. Any sort of "genocide" happens long afterwards when Columbus informs the rest of Europe of the New World. After that first voyage, Columbus doesn't appear to do anything of worth until his eventual death, as Horwitz explains, "as a sad, broken figure".

But while there doesn't seem to be mention of Columbus actively participating in the genocide of the Indian people, there's no denying that such atrocities did occur later during the following centuries. So it can be argued that Columbus' initial discovery of the New World is what lead

to the slaughter and enslavement of the natives, so he does deserve partial blame. But Columbus' journey across the Atlantic was not a voyage of discovery. From his constant miscommunication with the natives to his failure as an administrator to the point of being taken back to Spain in chains after his third voyage, it's heavily implied that Columbus was not prepared or qualified for the responsibility discovering a new continent would bring. He discovered America by mistake and seemed to have no more significant involvement in our nation's history than that. And because his discovery led to the death of a large number of natives, he seems to have taken the blame for many events that he did not foresee occurring.

So while the protesters may have had good intentions at first, the popularity of Columbus' initial voyage in our country today may have caused their anger to be misplaced. What do you think? Should Columbus Day still be celebrated? How much is Columbus really to blame?

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2

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Re: Disproving Columbus

by Brogan Cornish - Monday, October 2, 2017, 7:07 PM

A preconception I grew up with was knowing about Columbus, and how he discovered America first. Although he has his own holiday according to this theory people such as Charles C. W. Cooke. In "Celebrating Columbus, Brave and Bright" Charles explains about the humans who traveled across the Siberia-Alaska land bridge. The relevance of this article, and study invalidates the begging of the history of America. Columbus wasn't even the first person to North America. Charles explains again in his article that the Vikings made it to North America around 1000 A.D. I agree with both of his points to distrust some of our history. This changes what I thought Columbus brought to our history.

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1

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Recognizing Columbus' Incompetency

by Nicholas LaMonica - Monday, October 2, 2017, 8:08 PM

The biggest preconception I had of Columbus' voyage to North America (although I think he deserves the backlash he's received from newer generations), was that Columbus was a highly intelligent conquistador who had the qualities only the 'pioneer of the New World' could possess. However, there are many instances in the podcast that reference his true intelligence. At 6:23, the narrator references how Columbus believed that the world was not flat (which is good), but is *small* (which is not true). Later in the podcast at 12:35, he is said to be mentally erratic, and spontaneously changes his mind on the shape of the Earth: flat. These are terrible misconceptions to hold, especially for an explorer and navigator. Although many people appreciate Columbus and his pioneering of the Americas, it is unsettling to me that he receives so much recognition in American culture (Columbus Day), and I hope the true version of Columbus is printed on textbooks in the future.

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2

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