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Native American Mascots

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Native American Mascots

by [Joe Escobar](#) – Friday, February 26, 2016, 10:06 PM

This thread is for discussions on the Native American Mascots 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, something that describes which question(s) you are addressing . Do NOT simply leave it RE: Native American Mascots

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With the right respect, these tribes are honored

by [Rebecca Heard](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 10:54 AM

As discussed in the provided article, Sue Shaffer, a tribal chairwomen for the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indian says " We've had very good relations with the Roseburg Community,you know, and I don't think we ever took it as demeaning. We see it as kind of more like a recognition in a way."

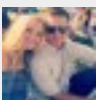
Sue gives a good point that I stand by, having a mascot that represents these tribes give them recognition. If I belonged to a tribe I would think I would feel proud of the name and support that school who was using my tribes name.

As I also read however, not all were all for the Native American Mascots. Some found them offensive and insensitive. In my opinion if they are honoring that mascot, showing pride, and being nothing but the most respectful, there is nothing wrong with it.

I disagree with Lanes Native American Program Coordinator that if it offends even a single person they should go. We don't look at the rest of the world this way. Every law, rule, or direction has the potential to offend maybe 1 out of 30 people say in a class, saying that I don't think it is worth the energy to spend on that small minority. Besides, look at it this way, getting rid of the mascots in my opinion from reading this article would take away their honor they were given and may end up offending more than did keeping them around.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Native American Mascots

by [Benjamin Glaeser](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 5:26 PM

I don't think using native American mascots for sports is in any way discriminatory. In my opinion we are

recognizing their culture and shows that they had a very significant impact on how our country is today. I think that banning schools from using native American mascots is more discriminatory than using them. It shows that we recognize that community of people and large populations of fans take pride in their sports teams mascots. Something that was said by a woman in the video regarding the state of Oregon was that this new law being passed banning these mascots is striping many communities, alumni, and current students of their identity which is exactly what the Americans did to the Native Americans long ago. Clearly the two situations are on a much different scale. However I believe it is unnecessary to ban these mascots.

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Minorities

by [Rebecca Heard](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 1:31 PM

I too agree and like how you related this to Gay Marriage. As you said, yes they are two different measurements of our life but I like the relations you did make within the two. As I strongly believe and read in article after article, the minority thought negatively of these Native American mascots, yes even the minority within that race. Well, how come on an issue like this the minority has more power? However, when looking at many other issues around the world, Gay Marriage one of many examples, the minority does not have the power to make a change where they stand. Despite anyone opinions and where they stand on issue, you can't deny that. A few people found it offensive to keep these mascots living on, and Oregon is going through the steps to get rid of them. The minority in many other issues wants it to change, but their feelings or concerns aren't as powerful as this specific topic we are discussing and I wonder why that is and what makes the minority more important than the majority.

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Does it matter how most American Indians view the mascots?

by [Keefer George](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 5:47 PM

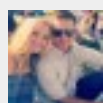
I think the issue puts on display the problem our society has with trying to be on the politically correct side of every issue, even when the group a perceived injustice is being committed against doesn't see the problem. When the vast majority(75%) of Native Americans don't have a problem with the Redskins team name, arguably the most offensive one possible, there is no issue.

The Register Guard article shows just how misguided the activists trying to change team names are in their efforts. I find it almost comedic that when Brenda Brainard the Eugene School District's NATIVES Indian Education program director thought she would find her outrage of mascots shared by tribes across the state, she didn't. In fact the local tribes appreciated the recognition by local schools of their local tribes.

Schools don't disrespect their own mascots, whether they are the Warriors or the Tigers the mascot is treated with respect.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Does it matter how most American Indians view the mascots?

by [Benjamin Glaeser](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 1:22 PM

I agree why is the vast majority don't care are we wasting time and money on this. I also thought is was interesting that the Florida State Seminoles are able to keep their mascot. I understand they are able to keep it because the seminole tribe said that it was okay. But why then are the seminoles not offended but apparently other tribes are? In my opinion in todays world people seem to look for things to be offended by or look for things that are not "politically correct". I think its much more important to look at the intentions behind certain actions. And most the time a mascot is picked because it represent something, strength, power, victory,etc. The native American mascots were picked because they were fierce warriors. I look at the picking of a mascot as a sign of respect not discrimination.

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Re: Does it matter how most American Indians view the mascots?



by [KeefeGeorge](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 1:38 PM

One reason the Seminoles may have been more open to letting FSU continue to use the Seminole as a mascot is because they are represented in a totally bad ass way that shows the power and strength of the Seminole people. If you haven't seen it before, the FSU football team is led out onto the field by a Seminole warrior carrying a flaming spear that he then throws into the middle of the field, its awesome. Heres a video <https://youtu.be/qZ4yr4sNQ5M>

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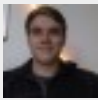
Re: Native American Mascots Q 1–4

by [Clayton LeaMaster](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 7:18 PM

In this day and age people seem to be really sensitive about things and no one wants to start any trouble so if a topic is brought up the people or groups seem to get what they want so no issues are started. Obviously the American Indians who have a lot of pride in their culture are going to be the ones who have issues with the mascots and that is understandable. In order to be upset, they should be from a tribe and not just have a little Indian in their bloodline. I think if a large number of American Indians have an issue with mascots something should be done and maybe there is a large group but I have only heard of this issue within the last couple of years with the NFL team the Washington Redskins and I always thought it was a league issue and not all sports.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Native American Mascots Q 1–4

by [Kyler Paselk](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 4:59 PM

I like your point, but I would like to argue from the other side. I don't think you have to be Native American at all to be offended by the use of stereotypical images of Indians. It doesn't take the blood of the people to recognize an act of racial discrimination. I don't have to be a woman to be a feminist, an African American to recognize racism, or a Native American to feel effected by the use of their people and their culture as mascots. We need to be compassionate about others cultures and realize when we are taking it to far. If they aren't bothered by it then let it be. But, If people are feeling oppressed by the use of anything that could have the result of discrimination or deprivation of the feeling of belonging, then we should do what we can to eliminate those causes. The amount of horribly atrocious acts of violence and hate we have seen just in the period from 1820–1900 has given me the expectation that by 2016 we should have grown out of our old hateful ways. At this point we should do all that we can to bring everyone together. "A house divided cannot stand". Thanks, Abraham Lincoln.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Native American Mascots Q 1–4

by [Clayton LeaMaster](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 9:34 PM

I do not find it as a racial discrimination. Native American Indians are part of history and colonized the US for who knows how long. I do not think it is right that we took and forced ourselves onto their land but I do not see discrimination with the mascot issue. Sports are very important in this country and I think we are recognizing/honoring them in a positive way.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Morally Conflicted: One Side of the Argument

by [Kaelin Kane](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 8:45 PM

As someone who doesn’t understand in the slightest any Native American cultures, I morally can’t take a decisive stance on the issue as to whether the primary schools and collegiate schools should shed their Native American mascots for more racially neutral mascots. I’ve never taken any contemporary portrayals of Native Americans as men with red skin that prance around with feathers, bows, and arrows seriously. I have seen documentaries on

how Native Americans live today and for the most part it’s incredibly depressing, but not much like what the media has shown them to be. In any case, it’s up to the Native American people whether it’s okay to use their culture as a tool to make ours more interesting. If 75% of the Native Americans are actually okay or supportive of this, schools should be able to keep their school names. A 3/4th’s majority in Congress is enough to amend the Constitution, and big enough to give the President power to give people who were enslaved citizenship and the right to vote.

But I do understand that the minority matters, and I can’t ever know how that feels. The closest thing I can relate it too, is to how I feel about gay marriage, in that marriage was a spiritual union between man and woman in the glory of God, not two men or two women. But marriage was institutionalized under law, and because of that, it’s no longer fair to tell the happy gay couple that they can’t be legally binded together because a religion they’re not a part of doesn’t like it. I see American schools as the gay couple and the Native Americans as the Christians who decide whether or not it’s okay for the couple to get married.

Of course, the relation between the two controversial issues, is fickle at best because the majority and minority are switched, but this is just the closest I can possibly relate.

If all the Native American names have to be changed because of institutionalized racism, then all race-based mascots have to be changed as well. Including Sheldon High School, home of the Irish, and North Eugene High school, whose mascot is the Highlander. If this change does happen, it’ll be a long and thorough process and there’ll be a lot of others who will fight back.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

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Re: Morally Conflicted: One Side of the Argument
by [Kyler Paselk](#) – Tuesday, March 1, 2016, 3:51 PM

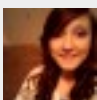
Your points are spot on and I completely agree with you. I also really like your gay marriage analogy and your reference to the 3/4th vote in congress. If I could add anything else to the mix, I would throw in the financial cost necessary to complete these changes. If we are going to change every school mascot or logo that is depicting or referencing Native Americans, we might want to consider how many schools that would involve. In most schools you would probably have to change the logo in the football field, basketball court, baseball field, and many other areas around the school. These things are very expensive to do. If we also want to change all other offensive school mascots, like the Sheldon Irish, we would have to factor in the expenses of those schools as well. I'm not 100% sure, but i don't think the state of Oregon really wants to spend such a massive amount of money "fixing" so many schools.Especially when they wont spend enough money to keep all of the teachers at these schools.

So many factors go into play with these decisions that in the end, it isn't just about the people it might offend. If the money magically appears, then I say go for it! Sadly, I don't see that happening in the near future.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2

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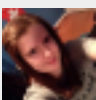
Re: Morally Conflicted: One Side of the Argument
by [Kaelin Kane](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 10:15 AM

That's a really good point as well. Many teachers right now are close to going on strike (I heard this from my economics teacher this past spring), and this could be what push them to doing so. They'd have the support of the students and the Irish alumni. If they did end up changing the mascot, then every Irish-branded accessory would be worthless for what they were bought for, to show spirit.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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Controversial Issue
by [Aleethia Collins](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 9:08 PM

Having Indians as the mascots of schools has been a controversial issue for decades. After learning about Native American history, and seeing the researched facts about this issue, I feel as though it is reasonable to keep allowing schools to portray Indians as their mascots. I feel it would be a different story though if the large

majority of the Indian tribes today felt that this was demeaning and disrespectful, but this simply is not the case. In a poll done by Sports Illustrated, 75% of the Indians that were asked had no problem with a team using their heritage as a nickname. As long as schools are presenting the mascots in a dignified way then there should be no problem. Though I do feel it is important for people to learn accurate history on the Native American people, and not just assume and generalize them all as exactly how a mascot may depict them as. This issue is only a real problem if a majority of Indians feel offended by the mascots, otherwise it seems like a respectful and honorable thing, to be proud and want to be an Indian.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Hard sides to take

by [Kamron Bratlie](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 9:56 PM

This is definitely a tricky subject area. I am really taken by both sides of the argument and it its very difficult to be one one side or the other on this topic. I have a Native American heritage, but not one substantial enough to use as a platform for an opinion. I attended a middle school in Winston, Oregon with the mascot of a “Warrior.” This issue was never talked about when I was there, nor have I heard anything about it until now. Also, growing up adjacent to Roseburg High School and their “Indians” mascot, I always felt a strong sense of pride and Identity from the school and the community.

The part of the pro–mascot side that I was most compelled by was the mention of how other types of mascots would also have to be put in this perspective. We would have to essentially “clean house” with all of the mascots that weren’t an inanimate object or an animal. The Sheldon Irish, for example. Changing this would be a costly renovation of our schools, and could be seen as a waste of money that could be put to better use.

However, you can’t deny that there is a base level of stereotyping and racism, even if it is minuscule and unintentional. I’m very interested to see what all of you have to say on the topic, because I am having a hard time “picking a side.”

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Re: Native American Mascots: Debate about dropping Native American Mascots

by [Sohni Maan-Davie](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 9:59 PM

Some high schools in Oregon have their mascots named after Native Americans and some people like the idea and some don't. Some people find that the mascots recognize these Native Americans and that some Native American tribes don't find it insulting. Some of the mascots bring out the best in sportsmanship. Don Kordosky did say that there has been no history in which someone dresses in Native American clothing or chants that have been offensive to the Native American community.

There have been Native American students in Oregon that have felt embarrassed by the mascots, or that the mascot could leave an impression from a historical trauma. In the 1970’s, a few states have gotten rid of their Native American mascots in high schools and colleges.



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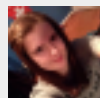
Native American Mascots and the Roseburg Indians

by [Kyler Paselk](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 10:14 PM

Having come from Roseburg High School, I am familiar with the issue of the use of a Native American (in some shape or form) as a mascot. It was quite an issue when I was attending the school. I think the reason most of our community wasn't in favor of changing the mascot was that the Cow Creek Indian Tribe wasn't offended by the use of the mascot. They felt it was more positive to their image rather than negative. This doesn't speak for every community outside of Roseburg, but the people in our community thought that it brought us together. One other factor that went into the decision of keeping the Indian as our mascot was the cost of changing everything. This might sound horrible to even talk about if it involves people feeling oppressed or offended, but it is a real world factor. Only a couple years prior our school had just put new astro turf on the football field. At the time of the question of changing the mascot i don't even think the school was done paying off the turf from a couple years earlier. Plus we would have had to change our basketball court as well as many other things around the school. For a city of 23,000 people this would be a big task, maybe even an unnecessary one considering the local indian tribe wasn't offended by our mascot. All in all i think it ranges from community to community. I still would personally support the change of the mascot, provided that there were no financial dilemma involved. It might hurt the community of Roseburg more to change the mascot than to just leave it alone.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Native American Mascots and the Roseburg Indians

by [Aleethia Collins](#) – Friday, March 4, 2016, 7:47 PM

The point you mentioned was interesting and one that I had not yet considered. The financial aspect of changing mascots of schools. It is interesting that schools would still be made to change their Indian mascots, when it is costly to do so and a majority find no problem with the current mascots. There have been studies done where the large majority of Indians asked did not find the mascots to be offensive. As well as some even prefer them and find that it gives them recognition. I feel at least for now schools should be able to keep Indians as their school mascots and not make the costly choice of switching them, primarily due to the fact of offending the minority.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Native American Mascots

by [Coal Taylor](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 10:58 PM



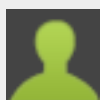
At the very beginning of the list of questions we're supposed to be answering, there was one statement that stuck with me very well. "There is a near total disconnect between Indian activists and the Native American population on this issue." If the Native American population is not being constantly consulted in the process of protesting these mascots that the activists are calling an affront to Native American culture, then how can the activists say that the mascots really do discriminate against Native Americans? I think that the most important people group in this debate are the object of the discrimination, whether it is there or not. The Native Americans themselves have to be the most important part of the decision of whether or not the mascots are discriminatory and if we should take action to restrict or ban the usage of them.

I really did take issue with the statement about how if even one Native American student feels discriminated against by the mascot, it should be changed. I feel that if this logic was applied to other issues, we would never be able to make progress, because progress would require a unanimous agreement, which is a very, very difficult to achieve phenomenon. Though the person who responded to the statement above did exaggerate somewhat, I feel he was capturing the general idea of my opinion on the matter. If we do away with all of the mascots that make even one Native American student feel discriminated against, then many other mascots would have to go because one student feels discriminated against by the mascot for whatever reason. This is obviously a ridiculous idea, and one that cannot happen unless we do away with the mascot system entirely.

Overall, I think that any team who goes through the same process as Florida State and gets their mascot approved of by the tribes should be allowed to keep there mascot with no restrictions. I also think that teams with names that aren't blatantly discriminatory, like the Braves and the Warriors should not be regulated. In the case of the Redskins, which is a derogatory term, I believe forcing the team to change the name would be warranted. I understand that it is a difficult line to draw on where a name goes from okay to discriminatory, and so I think that decision, should be left to the tribes.

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Re: Native American Mascots

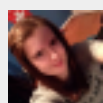
by [Carter Ellis](#) - Monday, February 29, 2016, 11:12 PM

Ive now heard of this issue for a couple of years because i lived in a town where a neighboring school's mascot was the indians and still is. For a couple years they were gonna have to change it until it was overruled and they got to keep it. Although there were a lot of people that opposed the mascot name, it seemed most of the people that wanted it changed were not indians themselves, they were just activist for them. For most of the indians that are in the area they were bummed that it was going to be changed. There was a big town hall meeting where they invited some people from the local tribe and they wanted it to stay.

I think on other occasions if it is offending people then i definitely think it should changed whether they do a vote or something but i think that it should be up to the people that is is affecting!

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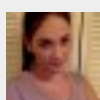
Re: Native American Mascots

by [Aleethia Collins](#) - Friday, March 4, 2016, 9:11 PM

I agree with the point you are making. Indian mascots should not be forced to change, if a majority does not find them offensive and the ones that do are not even Indian themselves. Many Indians feel that these mascots honor Native American culture, and are not demeaning or disrespectful towards them. Though I agree that if a majority of tribes start finding them disrespectful, then there should be a change made and they should be forced to change. Though until then, I see no reason to make schools change their Indian mascots.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Native American Mascots

by [Dalannah Gheen](#) - Monday, February 29, 2016, 11:25 PM

I think that it is important not to forget our history in regards to the treatment of Native American people. This was not a proud time in American history and of course should not be brushed under the rug or taken lightly. Millions of people suffered immensely and should be honorably remembered. However, I personally feel like there are more appropriate ways of doing so than borrowing from a culture to represent a team mascot in a competitive environment. Even when done with good intent it seems that there is too much room for inappropriate interpretations that could lead to unnecessary discrimination.

I think Oregon had the right idea in banning the use of culturally represented mascots. What I have noticed is that these mascots, if not blatantly racist, are cherry pickings from an intensely diverse heritage of people and is often times poorly represented.

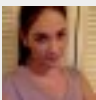
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Re: Native American Mascots Q 5-7
by [Clayton LeaMaster](#) - Tuesday, March 1, 2016, 10:30 AM

If only one person was offended by this mascot issue I don't think this issue would have ever reached the service but it was clearly more than just one who wanted something done about this problem. As for myself, being a sports fan, I don't see there being a problem with having Indian mascots. Like a few of you have stated, it is a recognition of tribes and who wouldn't want to have a sports team named after them? For the people in the articles who thought it was racist I do not see how. All mascots, not just Indians, are supposed to be fun and the suits are supposed to look "cartoonish" and "goofy" for lack of better words. Also, its sports history. All of these teams have had these mascots forever and it just would not be the same to change them now. I don't agree with Oregon's decision to make schools change mascots. If they change mascots they should get entirely new schools because the new mascot is not what those schools were built on or known for.

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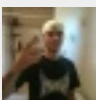
Re: Native American Mascots Q 5-7
by [Dalannah Gheen](#) - Tuesday, March 1, 2016, 7:30 PM

Essentially we could say that political cartoons wouldn't be the same without the racial implications they imposed during their time. Just because it's been socially accepted and adheres to ones own entertainment does not make it right and I'm sure Oregon has wasted money on much more trivial pursuits such as changing the highway name to "Pape Beltway".

I can't think of any other circumstance that this type of imagery would be appropriate If we were to take it out of context. Not to be taken the wrong way, but in regards to the blanket statement "75% of Native Americans are not offended by these names" do you think after so many years of being subjected to oppression, that it would really surprise Native American people by having a mascot parading around for the redskin team. Is it really gonna make or break the historic past. No, I'd feel more concerned with how it makes me look.



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Does it matter?
by [Justin Sheffield](#) - Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 2:27 AM

I feel like this decision is being perpetrated by the smallest group of people to further perpetuate political

correctiveness. How most American Indians view the mascots, from what the article stated it sounds like most don't mind nor care about the issue. I see how it could be offensive to some but even then they should know that it isn't meant to be offensive. But to say that because it offends just one person so we should change it to accommodate that one individual is kind of ridiculous. It's a mascot, plain and simple, meant to motivate and drive team and school spirit. And from personal experience the teams with "bad-ass" team names had the most spirit regardless if the teams were good. I think that it shouldn't be handled and the individual that took it upon themselves to spearhead this issue is just wasting tax payer money where it could be used to support our school system. I feel like this is a bad April fools joke that went horribly wrong and snowballed from there.

"In order to legally be able to use a Native American image as a mascot, the sports team should need to get explicit permission from the tribe they are borrowing the culture from..."

This line in the More Mascots Facts page got me little sideways. So the American Indian culture isn't a part of our culture and we are just "borrowing" it from them with the use of these mascots? So every Chinatown in the US (just google Chinatown and see how many area's are built around this culture) doesn't have explicit rights to its culture since it is "borrowing" it's culture from China and they should need official written permission to continue to construct and conduct business as they do? I've never considered that all of American Culture with all of the co-cultures from around the world that exist here are just borrowed cultures and aren't truly part of "our" culture as Americans.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

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The Majority should have the Say
by Aleethia Collins – Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 10:45 PM

Majority of the time it seems that the Native Americans are not being portrayed disrespectfully, but instead honorable. It gives tribes recognition and helps keep their culture alive. Based on studies, the majority of tribe have no problem with their ethnicity being showcased as a mascot and this is why I feel there is no need to remove them or change anything. On no issue does the small majority normally have the say. The vote should portray the majority of the people’s opinion. If any change needs to be made it should be removing the negative phrases being said about the Indians during sporting events. In my opinion, this would be a better way to solve the controversy, instead of removing the Native American mascot all together.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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Native American cartoons
by Titus Young – Thursday, March 3, 2016, 1:41 PM

In one of the cartoons we see two young kids walking. One asks "Really? You don't look like an Indian...", in the cartoon we get to see what he is thinking of. In a thought bubble there is clearly the following images: Redskins mascot, Pocahontas, and some other stereotypical pictures of Indians. Obviously, the artist is trying to imply that in today's society, little kids have a very narrow understanding of what a Native American is. The Artist is clearly pro-Native American, and is calling for a close look at what Native Americans are actually like. One more thing I would like to point out is that both of the little kids are hold books, this could be the artist subtly suggesting that the truth about Native Americans should be taught in school. I might be stretching it there but, who knows?

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2

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Re: Native American cartoons
by Kyler Paselk – Friday, March 4, 2016, 4:32 PM

I agree with what you are saying here. The mascot images and logos might lead young children or stupid adults to believe that Native Americans may look, act, or dress like the caricatures make them out to be. I think we can see other examples of this throughout the 17th century with the political cartoon images of the Blacks and Irish. These people were drawn with over exaggerated features and are portrayed doing things that they don't necessarily do.The Irish people didn't actually look like monkeys and the Blacks were not stupid people. We could apply this same thought on a more intense level today with racism against muslims.

I think most people are trained to feel fear, anger, or hate when they see a person wearing a hijab, burka, or turban. When we see news stories or comedians like Jeff Dunham representing these people in stereotypically negative ways, we can't help but have some of those ideas stick into our head if we aren't already aware that those are false representations of those people. Our American minds are filled with so many negative images and stories of people wearing these head dresses that we cant help but place these people into horrible stereotypes. I think the same thing is represented in the image you are talking about. The kid couldn't get all the preconceived ideas that he had of Native Americans out of his head to just accept the Native American kid for what he was, just another kid.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Is it worth it?
by [Michaella Ensele](#) – Friday, March 4, 2016, 10:01 PM

Before reading this article I never really thought about how big of a deal this issue is. In my opinion I don't really think that changing all of the school mascots that have an Indian based name would be worth it, some are actually praising the indian names like the Florida Seminoles have respect for the Seminole indians so they get to keep that mascot name. I believe that most people are like Katie Zimmerman “I’ve heard both views,” she said, “but my perspective is we treat our mascot with respect. I see it as an honor to be a Warrior.” Unfortunately there are people that don't feel the same and might not respect the mascot like Katie does and one person with a bad attitude can ruin it for everyone. As an Indian myself I think that most names are okay, the only problem I have is with the Redskin name. In history it wasn't a very respectful term in history and shouldn't be used for a sports team to use, other names such as Chiefs and Indians are okay just as long as the Indians in that area agree with it as well because they should have that right in my opinion.

In another aspect of this issue is how much economic impact would it have on Oregon or any other state that makes all the schools change their mascots. In Oregon alone there are 15 high schools that have need to change and that isn't counting colleges or any other mascot out there, I personally don't think it would be worth it but unfortunately like we learned in class on Thursday this issue clearly isn't decided by democracy so what can we really do? Have respect for the mascot your school represents and hope that everyone else can do the same.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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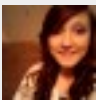


Re: Is it worth it?
by [Aleethia Collins](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 6:24 PM

I agree with the side you are choosing. For the most part, the Indian mascots are respectful and portray Indians in a dignified way. Also it seems that the people who find it disrespectful are not even Indians themselves. I feel if the Indian tribes find no problem with the mascots then there is no reason to ban them. The point you brought up about the Redskins is a good one. In that case I agree that it should be changed. Since this is not respectful towards the Native Americans. It would be a huge and unnecessary hassle to change every school's Indian mascot, when there is not even a substantial reason to do this in the first place.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Bias, the pro-change side of the argument
by [Kaelin Kane](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 10:50 AM



This is logo belongs to a city whose occupants are almost 95% white. There are 5 Native Americans living in a town of almost 3,735 residents. Even if the Native Americans wanted to change it, there would be an intense amount of pressure coming from the rest of the majority to comply with the majority's choice. The safest thing to do would be to not care about it and not attract any unneeded attention to yourself.

I do think that schools shouldn't have to change their names, but what if whenever a Native American (not the majority, but the minority) watches a mascot representing his heritage looks at it with the same distaste anyone would feel about this picture above? The city where this logo comes from was defending it as a tradition, the same way we defend our schools. But what if our perspective is all wrong?

If this is the case, it doesn't matter how much money or time is takes. It's institutionalized racism and must be changed. In the times of the "peculiar institution", not many thought that black slavery was wrong. People in the South knew it would cost way too much money to just let their slaves go free even if they felt morally convicted about it, the way many of us are morally convicted about it now. Nevertheless, we all agree that had all the slaves been freed when the moral issue was presented to the South, their lives today would be better.

Of course the blacks back then were going through harsh persecution unlike the minority Native Americans today, but I think those who see our use of Native American mascots as a tool to preserve institutionalized racism should be heard above anyone else, whether they're being heard through their own race or another.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Financial Burder

by [Rebecca Heard](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 10:41 AM

I saw on someone else's response the concern with the financial burden this may have on Oregon. It's not easy or cheap to completely get rid of a school mascot, their is a lot of work that goes behind it, a lot of time, and a lot of money. Knowing that Oregon is going to ban Native American Mascots and get rid of all previous ones saddens me for some. As it was a true result of honor and pride for MOST Native American's. I think there is a lot of more important historical issues to be focusing on than the banning of Native American mascots. Like I also said before, I think this is doing more bad than good. Their is going to be more disappointment than overall happiness on the few that wanted to end these mascots.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Financial Burder

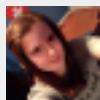
by [Michaella Ensele](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 7:15 PM



I agree with you completely! I wonder just how much it really would cost to change the 15 high schools in Oregon and even in other states as well. I find it really interesting how most students posts are against banning the native american mascots because on a smaller spectrum it proves what the whole entire state believes as well, but democracy doesn't always win.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 1

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The majority not the minority
by [Aleethia Collins](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 6:34 PM

I find it strange that schools are having to change their Indian mascots, when only a minority who is in favor of this and many Indian tribes find that they give them recognition and find no problem with them. As the example was said in class, the Oregon board of education had people vote on the issue fairly recently. The vote came out with nearly 80% saying that the school should be allowed to keep their mascots. Yet they chose to ban them anyways. I feel it should be up to the people, and if they voted to keep the mascots then that's what should be allowed. The Indian mascots should not be taken away because of a small amount of people, most that are not Indians themselves, are offended.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 1

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Re: The majority not the minority
by [Coal Taylor](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 11:13 PM

You bring up good ideas, but it is true that even though the Indian mascots were officially banned, there was very little enforcement of this rule. There was not enough support for removal of Indian mascots to warrant serious action, so even though there was an official ban, many mascots were not changed forcibly. Some schools did choose to change their mascots on their own, but for the most part the ban did not seriously impact schools. Some larger bans, like the NCAA ban on championship teams wearing the logos of their teams if they have Indian mascots, have had greater effect, but no bans have really forced change of logos.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 1

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