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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.

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IMPORTANT – SUBJECT LINES

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Native American Mascots
by Lisa Martin – Saturday, February 27, 2016, 2:50 PM

I analyzed the Register Guard article. I like how well this article was written, it really showed both sides of this Indian masco issue without being biased. I didn't even know that this was an issue in Oregon. Whenever I see a school with some sort of Native American mascot, I don't find it offensive. In my opinion the only reason schools with A Native American like mascot would be deemed negative i if the school didn't show pride in their mascot. If they're embarassed to have an Indian or a Warrior as their mascot, then yes they should get a new mascot.

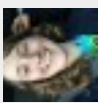
There are two sides to this issue simply, Indians who say they really don't mind the mascots, and Indians that do mind. The superindendent of North Douglas was once contacted by a man in the Cherokee tribe who told him, "I'm proud of my heritage, I'm proud that you continue to honor Native American culture and that you're naming your team after a teenage warrior." See, one Native American says that, but then another states the exact opposite. One student stated they despised [the idea of an Inidan mascot] and that they wanted it changed.

Perhaps, they should just leave the school if their offended. James Florendo from our very own school said it best, if Indian mascots affect even a single student in a negative way, they should go." This has been in the Oregon Government since the 2000s when Oregon stated it was going to get rid of Indian mascots, but didn't. So whether they decide yes or no, they need to decide before someone else gets offended like people so easily do these days.

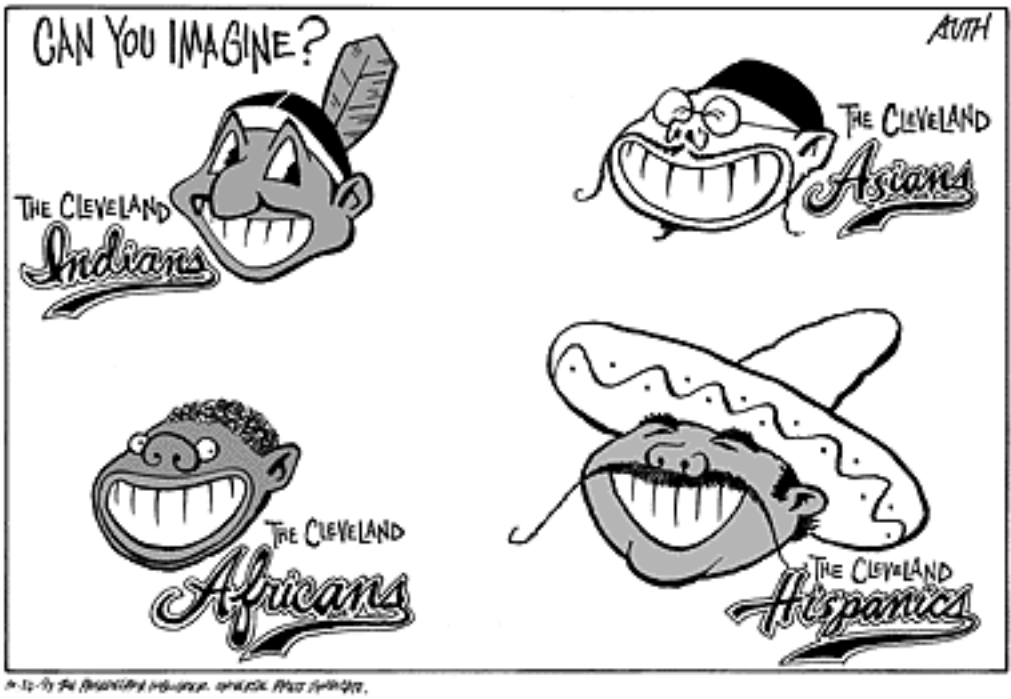
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Re: Native American Mascots
by [Lisa Martin](#) – Saturday, February 27, 2016, 6:58 PM



See, in my opinion I dont think Indians or any sort of Indian name as being offensive. Comparing to things like the Cleveland Hispanics or Asians is just wrong. That's completely racist, in my opinion. When we see an Indian mascot in a suit, we don't actually believe true Native Americans do that. We're not that gullible. But imagine if we had Hispanics for a mascot, what would people expect? Since America doesn't have as many Nactive Americans as we once had in the US, Indians aren't seen as serious anymore. When someone says "indian," we don't take that word as seriously. We think they don't have as much meaning as once had. Please note, this is all based on my opinion. I don't mean to offend anyone anyone, but I stand by what I say. Stating "we" as a general concencus, but of course all my opinon.

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Majority vs minority
by [Jennifer Jones](#) – Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 9:11 PM

Even though Native Americans are not the majority in the nation, does that mean we should not respect their culture? I know you are saying this is your opinion, but how are Native not as serious anymore because of their population.

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Re: Majority vs minority
by [Zachary Sielicky](#) – Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 11:42 PM

how is this disrespecting someone's culture by representing them?

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Re: Majority vs minority
by [Dan Johnson](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 8:55 PM

I don't think we show Native American culture a lot of respect. If we truly want to honor a school mascot who represents a Native America, we should have the school have a comprehensive understanding of Natives themselves in a way in which the average person can relate to the Natives showing similarities and differences between commonly understood facets of society and facets in Native societies. Courses like these could allow for students to take into account deficiencies in American culture, politics, and spirituality which could help foster a new found appreciation for differences and a willingness to identify with a broader understanding of their own humanity and how it relates to others'. Also, it could help people move to protect nature and the rights of Natives currently, which would help Natives feel more appreciated, empowered, and enfranchised in the context of American society. It could be used as an opportunity for people to come together.

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Re: Native American Mascots

by [Taylor Trujillo](#) – Thursday, March 3, 2016, 1:46 AM

I don't think the above comparison is a bad one at all. I believe that each individual culture has its great aspects just like of the Indian culture, and the only reason this would seem offensive is if we looked at it differently than it was being portrayed. For example, if we did have the Cleveland Africans, or the Cleveland Asians, I feel this would totally acceptable if we viewed it just as we do with the Cleveland Indians and this matter in its entirety. Now if we're portraying these things mockingly in this comparison, it takes a different turn. I also am having trouble agreeing with the idea of the population lessening to be the cause of why their culture isn't being viewed as highly anyone. Frankly, regardless of the amount of Indians in the population their roots run very deep, and they have always been viewed as very strong people. No matter the population in the US, their legacy will always live on.

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I agree with Oregon States decision

by [Lauren Collett](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 7:06 PM

This is a tough issue and also a long standing issue in America. In my opinion these mascots send the wrong message. For example redskins is considered a racial slur so to have sports teams yelling that out is completely inappropriate. Also simply having a picture of a redskinned man on your uniforms is similar to having a yellow skinned man on them! I don't think there is a big difference there.

The fact that seventy five percent of Native Americans don't have a problem with the mascots doesn't mean much to me in this context. There is nothing there to say the amount of Native Americans polled in this poll how the poll was conducted etc. For all we know this could have been some online poll and any person could have answered. Regardless twenty five percent is still a sizable amount of people to be against this issue.

I would have to agree with the state of Oregon's decision, these mascots should be part of our past not current day. It seems to me that people have become desensitized to the fact these things could be offensive, very similarly to the fact that people still think its alright to wear Native American Halloween costumes. If people are arguing that the mascots honor the traditions, I would say there has to be a better way. In my middle school we had a tribe come and dance in the auditorium in full regalia and it was beautiful. Wouldn't things like this be a better way to honor traditions and teach the new generations?

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Very nice points

by [Jennifer Jones](#) – Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 9:17 PM

Thank you for point out that redskins is a racial slur. I really loved what you said here. You are very right in the sense that we have no idea how these polls were conducted and who was interviewed. 25% of all Native Americans of the United States is still so many people to consider.

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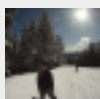
Re: I agree with Oregon States decision

by [Kevin Smolek](#) – Thursday, March 3, 2016, 11:11 PM

I agree that the the issue has many parts, and is more complicated then it would appear on the surface. These mascots are a part of the regions history though, and really, these mascots are not actually offensive. Redskins is, since it is derogatory term towards native Americans, but all the rest? I think that those are just fine, and so does almost everyone else, including native Americans themselves. I think that the main problem is that almost all Americans don't really know about all the atrocities committed against native Americans, and so don't appreciate all that they have gone through.

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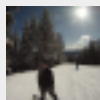


A matter of perspective, perhaps.
by [Taylor Trujillo](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 4:45 PM

I believe for many that this part of history isn't really well known. I feel a lot of what people are first learning about these situations is what the media is putting out there for them to see, so a lot of the time the use of a racial slur such as "redskin" may not have actually been used in a racist context. This also gives room for the media to shape how most people are going to feel about this situation, giving the opportunity to seem like a much bigger situation than it really should be. I don't feel like this is a matter of anyone being desensitized, but more or less them just not viewing it an offensive matter when looking at these mascots, or looking at the term "redskin." The poll that was taken surrounding this number with 75% of Native Americans not having an issue with mascots i will agree with you in the sense that, no we can't verify where this number or how this poll was taken, but I do believe this still bears some significance in the sense that it shows how the people who should be offended themselves feel about the matter. The fact that 75% percent, give or take, aren't offended should show that these mascots are not there to be portrayed as racist, or to mock their culture, but to show them in a light that represents their culture as a strong, great, and something that's a significant part of our history.

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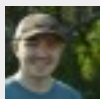


Racism and mascots
by [Taylor Trujillo](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 7:16 PM

This was my first time hearing or reading about this issue. My first thought on the matter was along the lines of why is this such a huge issue to begin with? This is something that has been going on for so long, and I feel its more offensive to be getting rid of these mascots than to leave them. Furthermore, I don't feel its so much of the origin that matters, but more of what these things stand for. I also agree with Professor Escobar in the sense that this issue with redskins would specifically happen right when we're looking into these things.

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Re: Racism and mascots
by [Kevin Smolek](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 11:01 AM

I agree with you. I think these issues are overstated, and that Oregon overstepped its bounds by forcing the schools to change. I just don't understand the thinking that if one person is offended, then everyone else has to go along with their decision. If the Native Americans felt really strongly against it that would be one thing, but it sounds like they don't really care one way or the other.

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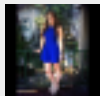


Re: Native American Mascots
by [Zachary Sielicky](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 9:21 PM

I believe Steve Bowers puts it best, "That is just another example of political correctness run amok." The idea of taking away these team names based solely on the fact of it "possibly offending someone" is a great example of what our society has come to. The fact that high ranking members of Indian tribes state that they support these mascots obviously exhibits the feelings toward indian mascots as unoffensive. If we had to take down everything that offended one person in someway then we would lose monuments and buildings with names that bare many of our histories most prominent figures. The quote, "I have a dream," would have to be taken down from a building on the University of Oregon's campus because it offended one person. Though they were a on the bad end of some of the darkest times in American history and the Indian people were slaughtered for land we still recognize their heritage and struggle. I understand the argument against the Redskin mascot because of the history of the term "Redskin" and I agree with a possible name change to something along the lines of, Indians or warriors. But to ban all mascots that have something to do with the Indian heritage is just another way for us to forget our history. Indian mascots are chosen for their traits of bravery, honor, loyalty, respect, ext. all things athletic programs want to embrace. In my eyes it is a sign of respect to associate a team with a group of people, I would be honored if a school wanted to dedicate their mascot in my ancestors name.

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Re: Native American Mascots

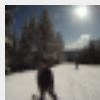
by McKalie Bellew – Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 3:58 PM

Zachary,

I completely agree with everything you said in this response. The term "Redskin" is viewed as a racial slur and a change in name for that team would be something to be considered. But if everything that offended someone was changed then it would be a much different world and no one would know about the history. But it is a sign of respect to associate the team with the brave, honorable, loyal and respectful attributes to the Native American culture.

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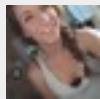
Re: Native American Mascots

by Taylor Trujillo – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 4:51 PM

I Agree with you Zachary. I feel the high ranking officials of the Indian tribes shows that the majority of them don't view this matter as racist. I feel for most this is the first time even hearing about the matter, and it's through the media. This leaves room for the media to portray this however they'd like, and be able to blow a situation up into something it may not even be. It's understandable that some have or may be offended by these mascots, but as you said in the above statement if we got rid of everything that offended people in this world, we wouldn't be left with very much at all.

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Thin Line. Jennifer Jones

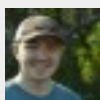
by Jennifer Jones – Monday, February 29, 2016, 10:07 PM

In a period of time where most people enjoy things to be politically correct, this is an politically correct issue that has been a topic of conflict for decades. It is hard to say "who gets to be Indian for the purposes of speaking about whether or not Indians resent the mascots". I would like to see what you all have to say about that question. Although, I do believe that it is so important how most American Indians view the mascots, including the minority. It is incredibly important for all American Indians to voice their opinions. It is a hard decision to think about if one person is offended, it shouldn't be there at all even if there is a tribe who approves of the mascot. Although I do believe that someones culture should not be handled lightly, even if there is approval. There is a very very very thin line between honoring a culture and appropriating it. I personally believe Oregon's recent decision was the right choice. When it comes to someones culture and their family, it's important to respect that.

If anyone has first hand experience with anything like this, I would love to hear about it.

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Re: Thin Line. Jennifer Jones

by Kevin Smolek – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 4:05 PM

I totally agree that this is a multifaceted topic, and that the only voices that really should have a say is the Native Americans. We learn such a watered down history of America in high school, that although I was aware of the mistreatment that they went through, I really had no idea how bad they had it during that time period. At the same time these mascots are a part of the schools identity, and forcing them to change seems unreasonable given that most of the Native American groups have little feeling towards the topic one way or the other. Thank you for your thoughts, they have helped me refine my thinking on this topic.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 1

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Re: Perspective

by Benjamin Hardiman – Monday, February 29, 2016, 10:17 PM

Benjamin Hardiman

12/29/14

Indian Mascot

I believe that those that have Native American heritage should be the ones to decide. Lately, when it comes to racial controversy, I've seen mostly white people speaking for entire races of people which I find can be sometime more racist than the issue itself. For example, I read a lot of articles written by white people about cultural appropriation during Halloween. When the authors speak for an entire race of people when they themselves have not come from that community and don't understand the culture, doesn't make any sense to me. "James Florendo, a member of the Warm Springs tribe and coordinator of Native American programs at Lane Community College, said that if Indian mascots affect even a single student in a negative way, they should go. Some of the discomfort many American Indians feel for mascots stems from "historical trauma," he added. "If your people have been the victims of genocide, it's real hard to listen to anyone on the other side saying anything about respecting you," he said. (Anne Williams)" This statement captures everything I want to say. A race that comes from struggle and unbelievable hardship should be able to decide the issues that effect them.

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Re: Perspective

by [Taylor Trujillo](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 4:53 PM

I couldn't agree more with the quotes you used. I feel it takes more than just the understanding the media lets you believe you have to be able to make a decision on this. They should be able to decide this matter for themselves.

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Tolerance of Native Mascots

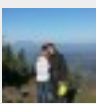
by [Kevin Smith](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 10:25 PM

American Indian names and motifs used as mascots or representations of both schools and professional sporting clubs is an inherently volatile issue when viewed in a historical context. The complex relationship of exploitation between native american and white settlers make any tentative step in a parody of the situation, whether genuine or not, liable to criticism on multiple fronts. Mascots and logos of teams, especially those representing secondary schools, have been targeted for reform. While native themed mascots may have been tolerated at the times of their inception, 21st century rationale have made such symbols as Indians, tomahawks, bows and arrows etc. an outlier today.

The reasoning for such censorship is sound theoretically, but questions to the application and effects of restrictions to some communities beloved icons have to be addressed. It is important in such a self aware society that their is a retention of all aspects of history, an acceptance of the past as a whole, not a regulated form of history. It is also important to remember that these symbols and motifs are specific to events and people of the past, not natives today, and are meant to be a source of inspiration and pride. Criticisms of this stance are understandable, but not universal or unanimous. If schools using native symbols apply them in a way that reveres what they are emulating, and especially if the native community cannot present a united front opposing it, their use should be tolerated.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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More Recognition of Natives

by [Dan Johnson](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 10:51 PM

The presence of an Native-American mascot is not inherently what is making the Native-Americans mad necessarily. What makes it insulting is the lack of knowledge of Native-Americans: their culture, their beliefs, their history, their symbols, and their values. When a Patriot is depicted as the mascot, it isn't considered

offensive because it is understood that the established group in society understands and deeply values the broader context of its presence. The Native-American mascot isn't understood in a broader context or considered to be valued to be understood by much of society. If they were, there would be more appreciation of their approach to life and seeing the way American leaders approach life, they seem to be the opposite in approach and appreciate contradictory value to that of the Natives. This accurately leads many Native-Americans to believe that the use of the mascot is a superficial overlook of the Natives from a white perspective where the Natives are seen as militant and war-like; however, the tribes were filled with multi-faceted human beings. To portray them as otherwise, is an injustice to all those who've suffered at the hands of hate, disenfranchisement, and discrimination.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: More Recognition of Natives

by [Benjamin Hardiman](#) – Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 6:46 PM

Forum 4

Response 2

Benjamin Hardiman

I believe you have perfectly explained the issue. It isn't the presence of the name/symbol that is the big issue, it is the lack of knowledge of knowledge of Native American culture. This isn't an issue that is "too politically correct", the history of the Native American people has an intensely deep culture and also filled with horrific tragedy. To boil all that down to a high school's sports mascot and then to shrug off the people who are offended by it, is awfully wrong. Lets say the mascot is a Native American and the team name is the "warriors". Condensing Native American culture into a term like a "warrior" I believe is wrong. The culture seems to only presented through war or the "fighting spirit". We should be cherishing Native American culture for far more than their strength in battle.

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Re: More Recognition of Natives

by [Jessica Driver](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 7:54 PM

I agree that the real problem is not whether the mascot represents a people group, but rather the light in which it portrays them. This is the reason I oppose the Redskins mascot – the Native Americans see the term as a racial slur and have asked that the name be changed. It is also the reason I oppose the blanket decision made by the Oregon legislature. Many of the mascots were sources of pride for Natives and others alike because of their positive portrayal of Native Americans.

I agree, though, that Native American culture deserves more colorful representation. Students deserve to be taught about their history and culture. In a way, I feel like a tribe-specific (and tribe-approved) mascot name would be more respectful and taken more seriously. It would be far more useful than a cartoonish representation for instilling curiosity and a appreciation for the culture.

Ultimately, it's a matter of cultural appropriation. Is the school's portrayal of Native Americans historically accurate? If it's based on nothing more than clichés, then it should be changed or removed. But I feel that a well-researched portrayal (in which the Native tribes should have a say) could be used to foster an appreciation for the culture.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Racist? Or Just a Product of Their Time?
by [Kevin Smolek](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 11:03 PM

The issue of Indian school mascots, according to the media, is a big deal. I think that the issue is overblown, and another case of the media looking for a “righteous crusade” to rile the public up on. The evidence from the Register Guard article goes on to show, that most of the native American communities don't have strong feelings on the matter. One of the activists said that if even one person was offended then the mascot should be changed. This is a ridiculous notion. Of course at least one person will be offended, someone is always offended, no matter the topic. The mascots are part of the schools history, and the region as a whole. I know that in today’s politically correct world these mascots would never get the green light. However they are part of these schools history, and forcing them to change just because a tiny vocal group is demanding it is crazy talk.

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Re: Native American Mascots
by [Daniel Padilla](#) – Monday, February 29, 2016, 11:42 PM

I believe the way Florida State University handled the issue was the best way. By directly going to the Indian groups and asking for their permission it really shows that you care about the name in a more respectful way. I have met a few students from FSU and their school spirit and the respect they have towards their mascot is incredible. I personally would see it as a great sign of respect and honor if an educational institution were to use "Zapotecs" as their nickname or mascot, specially because many Zapotecs have done great things that not many people are aware of. When it comes to the Oregon decision to ban all Indian mascots, I agree with Artemio Diaz, that it creates an environment where hostility and racist/mean comments can happen. I also agree that using these logos or names is still racist in a level as said by Se-Ah-Dom Edmo "even small amount of racism is still racism.

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Re: Native American Mascots
by [Zachary Sielicky](#) – Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 11:59 PM

I agree and believe this is the best way this could have been handled, this also demonstrated that Indians who are active within the Indian culture are not offended and are actually honored that a school wants to represent them.

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Educate the fans
by [McKalie Bellew](#) – Tuesday, March 1, 2016, 9:52 AM

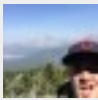
Native American Mascots is a topic that was brought to my attention, if I recall correctly, when I was in 11th grade. It is something that I never really thought of before, being a sports journalism and broadcasting major, I've never really paid a lot of attention to the mascot of a team. That's just who the mascot is, I never really put much thought into where that mascot came from or what it means for a team to have something as their mascot. That being said, I can understand why it might cause controversy among tribes who represent everything that the person in a Native American costume is dancing around as.

My personal opinion on this subject and it is even stronger after reading those articles, is that it's nothing to cause a big problem about. The people of those tribes aren't offended by it, as they shouldn't be. Although it is targeting a specific race, it's not discriminatory or racist against them or anything having to do with their beliefs or tribal ways. It's simply representing a sports team, it's a symbol to fans of who their team is. I am a broncos fan, so the Bronco is a symbol of my team. I am a Ducks fan, so the duck is a symbol of my team. Florida State's mascot is the Seminoles, so the Seminole is a symbol of that team and something that fans refer to, show off and are proud of everyday. You don't change the mascot of a sports team, it's just not a thing and even if you did people will still wear their old gear representing the previous mascot and refer to their team by the previous name. If it's a problem, incorporate a little more of the tribal ways into the games, gear and fan activities.

Educate the fans on their mascot so they know exactly who and what they're representing so when they do talk proudly of their team, or wear gear proudly they know exactly what they are representing.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Educate the fans

by [Zachary Sielicky](#) – Thursday, March 3, 2016, 12:10 AM

the only argument that could be made is the Redskin mascot. Though the actual meaning of the term *Redskin* is highly debated and could refer to the color of their skin or from the blood that was spilt when Europeans were given bounties for scalps of Indians. Either way the term *Redskin* is derogatory and should be questioned for change. Though other team names such as Indians, Warriors and Seminoles are not negative and should not be changed.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Educate the fans

by [Victoria Hayles](#) – Friday, March 4, 2016, 9:02 PM

I want to point out the interesting connection between the term "redskin" for Native Americans to the term "black" for African Americans. They both refer to the color of the people's skin, and now they are both known to be politically incorrect and downright offensive. When thinking about that, I was interested in how that happened in both cases.

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One Natives view on Native themed Mascots

by [Cheree Scott](#) – Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 11:50 AM

First, I am a Native. I am proud of my heritage and can be very vocal about it. So I hope I do not make anyone mad with my point of view.

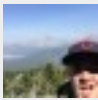
The use of native American Culture as a mascot doesn't offend me if it is done in a respectful manner. If it is used in a disrespectful manner, i.e. the Washington Redskins, I do not agree with it. I do find it offensive.

I have posed a similar question to some friends who are also Native and they look at it the same as I do. If it is done in a respectful manner and that is regionally accurate there is no concern.

But here is a question how would you feel if there was a mascot that was a derogatory term from your culture?

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Re: One Natives view on Native themed Mascots

by [Zachary Sielicky](#) – Thursday, March 3, 2016, 12:12 AM

I agree the term *Redskin* is derogatory and if I were native, I would take offense to it due to the history of the term.

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Washington Redskins controversy

by [Jessica Driver](#) – Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 9:09 PM

Only a minority of Native Americans seems to care about the Washington Redskins debate, but because of its symbolic nature it is an important issue to resolve. If there is a consensus from Native American tribes that the name is insulting, it should be dropped. Granted, the team name is a part of football culture, which is a legitimate culture. It would also cost plenty of money to change the name.

These factors pale, however, when compared to the symbolism of an insulting term. “Redskins” hearkens back to the 1800s, when Native Americans were driven from their homelands, treated as subhuman, and massacred.

Even the reformers oppressed them, demanding that they give up their culture. If Native Americans today are hurt and offended by this connection, it needs to change. It should probably be changed something similar to the old name. How about “Whiteguys”? Oh wait, that would offend the black players! (Just kidding, of course!)

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Oregon's Decision
by [Victoria Hayles](#) – Friday, March 4, 2016, 12:51 PM

I personally don't agree with Oregon's decision to ban Native American mascots in schools, mainly because it only applies to certain schools. If they really were wanting to change how things were, I feel like they should have included colleges as well. Also the majority of the population did not agree with this, yet the legislation passed. As Joe joked about in class, democracy is the minority oppressing the majority.

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Indians are not the only ones
by [Victoria Hayles](#) – Friday, March 4, 2016, 8:52 PM

I noticed that while the controversy for schools with Native American mascots continues, there is not as big of a debate about other possibly offensive school mascots. Sheldon High School for instance has an Irishman as a mascot, and he is depicted as angry and aggressive (see picture). There are many other examples of offensive mascots such as Scotty from Michigan Alma College, Marty the Midget from Freeburg Illinois, and the West Virginia Mountaineer.



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Re: Indians are not the only ones
by [Kevin Smolek](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 4:12 PM

You make a very good point here! One type of potentially offensive mascot is forced to change, while other types of mascots are completely ignored. I don't have the shared history needed to really make an informed opinion on these issues, but my feelings are that forcing the schools to change is a bad way to go about fixing the historical mistreatment of these groups.

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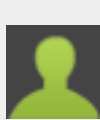
Re: Indians are not the only ones
by [Jessica Driver](#) – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 8:35 PM

My guess as to why these are ignored is that the "Redskins" debate (as well as political correctness and public sentiment) had something to do with which mascots were banned. But I agree that the ban is inconsistent, making this debate seem even more frivolous. This portrayal of the Irish (while not as bad as the ragged

monkey-faced figures from our forum cartoons) would be an insult to anyone who took pride in an Irish heritage. It has no accurate cultural substance whatsoever. It combines the stereotypical leprechaun with a fighting image. While the fighting might be something sports fans would be proud of, I don't think actual Irish people would be. Our culture's activism seems to be limited to the latest issue. In this case, they have banned mascots that honored Native Americans because the issue was "hot", but they have ignored something that's just as bad as some of the worse cases.

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majority rule
by Kevin Smith – Saturday, March 5, 2016, 8:03 PM

Regarding Oregon’s decision to modify high school mascots, the fact that the majority opinion did not rule in this case isn’t necessarily wrong. Majority opinion cannot oppress the rights of the minority, or protection under state and federal governments. Oregon’s decision may have been an attempt to place protection over opinion, protection being safety of degradation from offensive mascots. The technical question would not be if these mascots are offensive, but if being offended deserves to be preserved by from an offensive majority. There is no absolute answer, but subjective opinions depending on if the material is offensive or not

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