

HST 203: U.S. History Sp18 (Escobar Meta 41002 43590)

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Forum 3 Historical Amnesia

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Historical Amnesia

by [Joe Escobar](#) - Thursday, May 10, 2018, 9:29 PM

This thread is for discussions on the Historical Amnesia 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 one of the questions you are addressing. Do NOT simply leave it RE: Historical Amnesia

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Accurate History for a better Future

by [Hayley Allen](#) - Friday, May 11, 2018, 3:02 PM

After reading the articles and watching the videos on the tragedies in Nanjing, the most concerning aspect is the Japanese continued denial and refusal to apologize for the events committed by their people. It is a tough pill to swallow to admit or take responsibility for actions so hideous, especially when they were under imperial dictatorship orders however they cannot be forgotten. I commend the activist who are investigating and recording the events as to not let it be glossed over in future generations. One of the activists, Fumiko Niki describes, "The effort to remember that history is being lost in a growing revisionist tide, she fears. "We are in a very dangerous period," says Ms. Niki. "Awareness of Japan's role in wartime is fading." (Article 1, War Museum). If this history is not acknowledged just like the actions committed by Hitler then massacres and genocide will continue to repeat. I argue that these memories and historical events are necessary to prevent inhumane governments to order citizens to carry out actions such as these by resisting or questioning that authority. There is obviously extreme situations that this can still occur when people are forced or coerced into doing something however with knowledge and strong ethical/moral dignity, the masses can rebel against unjust orders such as genocide. With the situation described by one of the veteran soldiers, Tsuyoshi Ebato, "Terrible things like this happened all the time," he says. "Now people are saying that they never happened. Japan wants to keep a lid on a stinking pot." (Article 1, War Museum). By pretending this never happened, the lives of those killed and abused will not be honored or respected as well as continued strain on the relationship with the Chinese as explained in the second article. I know that Germany handles the subject of the Holocaust with very little sugar coating because they feel only after they have taken the truth and full responsibility then can they grow as a nation that will never commit human genocide again. It is crucial that the Japanese government accept these actions and to include them accurately in school textbooks as future generations attempt to heal the wounds caused by their people. Although history may not always be something someone is proud of, especially being American as our history is filled with massacres, slavery and many other injustices; there has to be accurate recording and truth telling behind history or it really can't be considered history.

Sum of ratings:3 (1) 3

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Re: China's concern about Japan's historical textbooks**by [Sydney Plaza](#) - Friday, May 11, 2018, 5:20 PM

I think that China absolutely has the right and upper hand regarding their distaste for the 'whitewashing' of their history in relation to their war with Japan. Japan committed acts of genocide and full on war fare on the Chinese people. They should be accountable for their actions. They should be responsible for the war crimes they committed. In the same way that Germany teaches their history to their students so that in the hopes a rise of fascism doesn't reoccur. I think that the crimes countries and people commit should be put on display, it shouldn't be hidden. It should remain as an example of the honest truth of a countries history. I think that if there isn't an understanding of horrific crime(s) being committed than it is more easily perpetuated and repeated throughout history. It also does not take ownership of knowing that as a country or as a person that it or they have done something inhumane and deplorable. In a purely historical sense, I believe everything should be accounted. Everything to be known should be known, picking through the good and the bad parts are a fallacy in my opinion. It cuts out historical events that shaped the entirety of the history that came after it. I think that each country should have historically honest material of what happened, even if it points out a flaw within your own country. That flaw should be used as an example of why a thing should not be repeated.

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[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Re: China's concern about Japan's historical textbooks**by [Mj Capelle](#) - Friday, May 18, 2018, 4:42 PM

I absolutely agree with what you're saying and how Chinese people have the right to be angry towards the Japanese. If the Japanese are trying to find their way out the history books then it is wrong of them to do so. For an example, in World War Two America was ahead of its time. We had scientist that were making and discovering new things such as bombs (Which we used to end World War two) and media was on the uprise. Leading up to World War Two the U.S wanted to test their new weapon, which was a nuclear bomb. The location United States used to test their bombings was a place called Bikini Toll. Most people know this, but what majority of Americans don't know is that there was an Island next to Bikini Toll called Marshall Islands. The Marshall Islands got caught in the shock wave of the bombings which resulted into having radiation. My people were used as testing subjects for the Americans. This is why it is important for history books to put down all these events that have happened wether it is U.S history, Japanese history, or other history. We

that have happened whether it is US history, Japanese history or other history. We must not forget the bad doings we have done and learn from it. When we learn from we have a better chance to change the future, so we can prevent history repeating itself.

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Blurring Historical Meaning/Mistakes

by [Maxam Robison](#) - Saturday, May 12, 2018, 10:21 PM

On December 7th, 1941 Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. The next day Franklin D. Roosevelt spoke to the whole nation declaring war on Japan. In his speech, he stated December 7th would be 'a date which will live in infamy.' In this day and age, December 7th is remembered as the day pearl harbor was attacked, but the impact of that realization isn't as meaningful as it used to be. To top it off my birthday is in December but every time the 7th rolls around the thought of Pearl Harbor doesn't even cross my mind. To me, it's just another day that will eventually pass just like the one before, inevitably being forgotten within the next month. Nowadays the attack on the World Trade Center is probably as close as I can get to explain how the nation felt in 1941. Not sure if anyone else feels the same, but when it hit the news I was only 5 and even now, with the mild recollection of the event on that day, I have almost no kind of feeling towards that particular event. I'm not heartless I do grieve for those affected by the event, but to this day it still doesn't give me any kind of emotional impact at all. Another form of historical amnesia, or how I put it 'blurring,' can be seen is erasing events like the camps made in the U.S. for the Japanese Americans during the war. In class, Joe said that he searched for the two camps located in California but came up empty minus the replica of one of them built later, but they were gone like they never existed. The best way to muffle past mistakes is to get rid of as much evidence as possible and just let time drain away the rest. To explain what I mean the camp built to replicate the one before probably had more to it than what was reconstructed. Even Americans do wicked deeds, and because the camps were removed, we will not fully understand what happened in them when they stood.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2

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Re: Blurring Historical Meaning/Mistakes

by [Vanessa Heilmann](#) - Friday, May 18, 2018, 1:41 PM

In response to your post, I think it's a very honest reply and sadly how many younger americans feel in today's society. If it doesn't directly affect them it's not something they choose to remember or honor. However, history is what shapes the future. Think about all the important acts of "national security" that came after WWII and even after "the attack on the World Trade Center". Those are systems that affect and protect us even if we know it or not. It is truly sad that today people take for granted the historical actions and the results that shaped our nation, for the good or the bad. I was 17 when the attack on the World Trade Center happened, so yes a little older and maybe it hit home more than you, but I can still feel the shock, devastation, emotion and tears that flooded over me that day. It's so sad to hear you say, "To me, it's just another day that will eventually pass just like the one before, inevitably being forgotten within the next month." Martin Luther King Jr. says, "We are not makers of history, we are made by history." It's so true, this world could not be what it is today without the events in history. It's so sad how some of this younger generation has "forgotten" or maybe never cared to pay attention at all. Of course everyone is entitled to their beliefs and what they choose to focus their energy on but to "erase or blur" history is feeding into that, if it doesn't directly affect me, then it's not a big deal kind of attitude. I know you weren't saying it's ok to erase or blur history, but the fact that it's that easily forgotten is sad. Our mistakes are opportunities to learn and grow from what we do wrong. Without mistakes how would we grow? I'm grateful for history teachers like Joe who are passionate and allow us as students to focus on the bigger picture, learn an accurate telling of history and make us think out of our "normal" box. Hopefully this class will impact more students and make them appreciate our history more, I know it's had a huge positive impact on me.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**The Negative Effects of Historical Amnesia**by [Peyton Tooze](#) - Sunday, May 13, 2018, 7:24 PM

For the fact that the Japanese government has banned the telling of the Rape of Nanking in history books is evidence of there being historical amnesia. The problem with erasing something out of history is that there are things that have profound effect on people and knowing why or how something happened, can lead to an easier solution to the aftermath that potentially still lingers. Like the clip that showed the Japanese soldiers being interviewed by Tamaki Matsuoka says. "The story of Nanking is the key to the understanding of the war conducted by Japan in China and in the Pacific that cost the lives of over 20 million people." The concerning thing about trying to erase parts of history like the Rape of Nanking or the holocaust is that once we learn

and are able to detect causes of massacres like these we can prevent modern governments from making the same mistakes that caused millions of unnecessary deaths. Now, because of the Geneva Convention, our governments wouldn't carry out wars that deliberately kill everyone in their path because we have seen the negative effect the viewpoints that other countries have on actions like that. Needless deaths lead to weaker global economies which affect every country especially when it's a country that is prominent in world trade. It also leads to poverty for the victims of local areas which leads to more deaths many years after.

The Japanese way of carrying out war was of a brutal fashion. The colonizing and nationalist attributes opens the world's eyes to see how they have dealt with disputes in the past. Generally, how a country goes about war yesterday, gives clues on how it will go about war today. When Japan ignores their own history and wonders why they won't be let into an exclusive group of powerful countries who are, for instance, setting terms of war. The relationships that countries have with one another are based on past events and relations. It is ignorant to think that having a little historical amnesia won't put your country at a disadvantage.

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Concerns of Historical Amnesia

by [Kyle Shrope](#) - Sunday, May 13, 2018, 9:55 PM

I think the gravest concern for "historical amnesia" is forgetting the event that occurred could lead to another similar event. Even if the event doesn't look good for your country or your people it is still important to remember what happened, so in the future it won't happen again. In America we learn about all of America's history even if it isn't pretty, such as slavery and imperialism in other countries. It is important to learn these events and teach us, so the future generations have an understanding of the time period and how these events can be avoided. Also in America we learn about racism and the civil rights movement, so we have an understanding of how we as a nation can change and be more accepting of all cultures. The Japanese government distorting the information in the history books to make their country look better. By distorting the historical information their younger generations grow up with a false understanding of their own history and a different view on the world as a whole. In the first article given the author writes "The most famous example is the museum attached to Yasukuni Shrine, in Tokyo, which is dedicated to the spirits of soldiers who died in combat, including some convicted of war crimes. That museum essentially argues that Japan was forced into the Pacific war by Western colonialism" (McNiel). This museum teaches kids false history and helps shape their false views on the world and other

...and help shape their lives here on the home and other countries.

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Don't forget the definition of History

by [Vanessa Heilmann](#) - Sunday, May 13, 2018, 10:16 PM

I am appalled to learn about this atrocity that occurred in China. After reading and watching about what a complete massacre the "Rape Of Nanking" was, and to learn that this is being "played down" is completely outrageous. The definition of history according to www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary is: "a chronological record of significant events (such as those affecting a nation or institution) often including an explanation of their causes." Wikipedia's definition is "the whole series of past events connected with someone or something." Key word being WHOLE. To leave out such a significant part of "the truth of Japan's war in China from the early 1930s to 1945" (War Museum Resists Japan's Historical Amnesia) would be an inaccurate telling of history. Of course this is appalling and no nation would want to be remembered for these events that took place, but they happened and can not be forgotten or pushed under the rug. In today's world I feel a lot of people choose to be blind to such gruesome and horrendous truths. It's the "if we don't see it, it never happened" mentality. But that is not telling the full story and dishonors every Chinese refugee that lost their life in Nanking. The fact that "one textbook refers to the murders as an "incident" rather than a massacre," (China Says Japanese Textbooks Distort History) when 300,000 Chinese were brutally murdered and 80,000 women were raped is extremely upsetting. These "Ultrationalists have threatened to burn down the museum" because it is so horrendous to remember is really incongruent if you ask me. Ultrationalism is the "extreme devotion to one's own nation" according to Wikipedia. So if someone has that much pride in their nation why try to erase the actions they took? You'd think if you are proud of your nation "burning" evidence would mean you were ashamed... admitting fault if you'd say. So how can you have pride in something that you are ashamed of. Proud and ashamed have the exact opposite meanings from each other.

The veracity of the soldiers who wanted to expose the truth of what really happened and were "fueled by atonement, compassion, and the need to fight what they saw as Japan's historical amnesia" (War Museum Resists Japan's Historical Amnesia) now that's devotion to one's nation. Yes, their actions were "of such senseless brutality" and "defy comprehension" (Rape of Nanking overview video clip) but at least they have the decency to tell history as it happened and let people see this tragedy for themselves. The past isn't always sunshine and roses but how can you create a bright future with distorting our history, in my opinion you can't.

Sum of ratings:3 (1) 3

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Japanese removing history**by [Mj Capelle](#) - Monday, May 14, 2018, 12:00 AM

Japanese in Nanking raping is undoubtedly one of the most horrific events I have learned thus far. This tragic event has caused the Japanese to wanting to keep this information closed as possible or to forget about it. A thing they have done to is steer the event in a different direction than actually owning up to their mistake and this has been in the Japanese textbooks at school. As stated in article two, "One textbook refers to the murders as an 'incident' rather than a massacre" On Monday, a survey of over 1000 Chinese citizens by the Social Survey Institute Of China reported that most people found Japan's approval of the textbook insulting." Meaning Japan is denying the fact that what they did to the Chinese was not as big as they made it seem. In the interview with Tamaki Matsuoka she stated, "most of the soldiers have refused to acknowledge their crimes" As she interviews with soldiers that have been in the Nanking situation majority of them seem to not want to spill out any information or deny what they did during that time period because they know what they were doing was wrong. Even with death threats as the video says she continuously wants to find more evidence on the Nanking Massacre.

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[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Codes of War**by [Sydney Plaza](#) - Monday, May 14, 2018, 6:33 PM

I think that for every country their codes of war will be different because these codes should be based off of cultural values pertaining to each country. However, I think that the use of rape, chemical gas used as weapons, and genocide are looked at as 'dishonorable codes of war' but there are always exceptions. I think the authoritative figure that has the power is the popular culture of a country. In regard to the Rape of Nanking in China is an example of warfare that I don't think the Japanese would engage in today because that aggression would not be supported by the countries current popular culture. If there is a fascist government that is in power, the higher likelihood of war atrocities to occur because the culture of the population must support it otherwise they too will be victims. A democratic country still commits atrocities but if the US were to use rape as a weapon of war would not be supported by our popular culture. Although rape and sexual harassment does occur in conflict zones, it is not used a military strategy by the US. I do find it paradoxical how certain horrible things are seen as necessary and acceptable to be carried out in warfare. These codes of war were shaped in response to the first World War where the use of heavy machinery

became a standard. If any country wanted to militarize, then they must have mass amount of deadly, impersonal weapons.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1) 1

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Codes of War and Contradiction

by [Vanessa Heilmann](#) - Thursday, May 17, 2018, 9:48 PM

It sounds so contradicting to have “codes of war”, yet of course there should be. When you look at war it’s something you wish wasn’t even a word in our vocabulary, or even a page in our history book, but of course that’s human nature and history. Fighting for what people want and believe. As war is defined, “a state of armed conflict between different nations or states or different groups within a nation or state,” you’d think within that there wouldn’t be many guidelines. It’d be people doing what they need to do to win. I’m not at all saying that I believe it should just be a free for all but when I think of it it just seems like rules in a fight counteract each other. I do believe and wish that no human would have such barbaric and monstrous actions towards another human for any reason, but sadly, as history has shown with Japan in the “Rape of Nanking” and Hitler with the Holocaust and many other examples in history that those people do exist. A soldier who would rape and kill a woman and “then actually joined other members of his unit in eating her flesh,” that’s like a terrible horror movie. So yes “codes of war” should be in place. Yet I still feel a human with that much evil inside them, would they really listen to “codes”? In that case I think the authority to enforce those codes would have to be a strong organization and very powerful.

I think divisions of the UN like The International Court of Justice are definitely required to enforce these “codes”. In 1945 the ICJ was established for many reasons but one of them being “the extermination of millions of Jews and Poles by the Nazis” which the United Nations considered a tragic example of genocide. “Not once, but twice, that body declared unanimously that the practice of genocide is criminal under international law and that States ought to take steps to prevent and punish genocide.”

(www.armenian-genocide.org) So we do have some divisions that are taking the correct steps to prevent and punish genocide. At the bare minimum I agree that acts of rape, use of chemical weapons, and genocide should NOT be allowed in warfare. Of course no civilian should ever be attacked in combat. In warfare I feel like you are making an agreement to fight. So the only people who actually should experience the violence should be the “combatants” who are agreeing to fight. I still think we have a long way to go to truly “enforce” these rules, but it’s better to have some systems in place rather than nothing.

In 1948 when the The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was written it was a “recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family,” and was the “foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.” So yes this was written after WWII and for good reason. Article 5 was written as “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.” (<http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights>) I think this brings an important key factor of people wanting some kind of justice for treacherous actions by evil people. Therefore “codes of war” would hopefully help diminish those kind of acts

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Another Example of Historical Amnesia

by [Kyle Shrope](#) - Friday, May 18, 2018, 12:17 PM

Another prime example of historical amnesia would be our very own Democratic party. The democratic party has been around since the very late 1700s, but as shown in class on their website the first event they list is giving women the right to vote. The party doesn't want to display the true history of the party, because the founders were a bunch of slave owners who were still fighting to keep slavery around in the early 1800s. The party is forgetting where and how they started and only giving us the good things the party has done for the people. They want to make it seem like the party has only been doing the right things for the people and by doing that they are forgetting over 100 years of their parties history.

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War Crimes

by [Kyle Shrope](#) - Friday, May 18, 2018, 12:31 PM

In reality it seems impossible to write “codes of war” and actually have all countries at war follow them. Each country treats and views war differently than others stemming from the culture they came from. Wartime is a concerning time for any country at war and the country always does what they view is the best possible way to win, and many times that means taking over a country and all their innocent civilians. I think one code that would benefit all countries would be to leave the civilian population alone. The civilian population are purely just bystanders of the war at hand. They don't fight in the war, but they are stuck in it if their own country is at war. They oppose almost no threat to the soldiers of another country as they aren't even equipped to fight back against real military forces. Honestly I really don't see a way to enforce these rules as you never truly know what another country is doing during wartime. But after the war if there is

they know what another country is doing during wartime but after the war if there is evidence of a country breaking these codes they should be tried for war crimes and take punishment for what they did.

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Concerns of Japan's Historical Amnesia

by [Miya Pomeroy](#) - Friday, May 18, 2018, 3:51 PM

There's an old saying that those who do not learn history are doomed to repeat it. And I believe that in the case of historical amnesia that that saying has some validity. Although in this case it seems like the Japanese are very discouraged and just want to hide the events in Nanking, but then when no one truly understands what took place and what the consequences were, there is the possibility that the events may happen again in the future. I think another troubling consequence is the relations between the countries involved, as China and Japan are experiencing. Their conflict could spiral into worse events if a solution is not found. It also prevented Japan from entering the United Nations which could've had benefits. The conflicts involved in this situation could have been prevented if Japan took responsibility their wrong doings and regained the trust from Asia, as the Chinese primer stated.

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Black Exclusion Laws in Oregon

by [Sydney Plaza](#) - Friday, May 18, 2018, 7:00 PM

I think an example of historical amnesia that is particularly important for those of us living in Oregon is the Exclusion Laws. In the 1840's and 1850's when Oregon was being settled by whites, many of them opposed the idea of slavery, however, many of them opposed living amongst blacks as free men and women. (Oregon Encyclopedia) It wasn't until 1926 that African Americans were allowed to live in the state of Oregon and be protected legally. Growing up in the area I had never learned anything about the Exclusion Laws and Oregon's racist history because I was strictly taught that Oregon was never a slave-owning state, which sounds much better than the truth. I think that it would be more just to teach the accuracy of the laws that were in place in order to have a correct perspective that Oregon isn't a completely liberal state which I think a lot of people sometimes claim.

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Re: Black Exclusion Laws in Oregon



by [Vanessa Heilmann](#) - Friday, May 18, 2018, 11:08 PM

I hadn't heard the Oregon Exclusion Laws either until a year ago, which was very interesting to me and yes of course sad to think our state wouldn't allow settlement here by any black person. However "For the first half of the 20th century, Oregon was the most consistently Republican west coast state". (en.wikipedia.org/) Regarding your comment that people think of Oregon as a "completely liberal state" is just inaccurate if people think that. "The state is broken up into two main geographically separate political areas: the liberal cities of the Willamette Valley and the rest of the state, whose voters are moving from conservative to libertarian. Oregon's politics are largely divided by the Cascade Mountains, with much of western Oregon leaning Democratic and eastern Oregon leaning Republican. (en.wikipedia.org/) It's actually really interesting to me to read this data because "The last time a Democrat won every county in the state in a presidential election was in 1936, when Franklin D. Roosevelt carried all counties. The last time a Republican accomplished this feat was in 1928, when every county was won by Herbert Hoover." (en.wikipedia.org/) It definitely is interesting to think about our state and it's individual history, especially when it's the time frames we are reviewing in our class right now.

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1

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Codes of War for the World

by [Miya Pomeroy](#) - Friday, May 18, 2018, 9:12 PM

I think a uniform code of war would be very difficult to produce considering that all the nations may have very different views and beliefs especially when it comes to morality which can have a great influence on their war tactics. I guess for today's world councils like the UN could have a say in what should be allowed or not. Enforcing a code would be extremely difficult though. I would assume that if a situation like Nanking were to happen again, other countries would help those who were being attacked and prevent further murdering and raping or anything else that would be happening. As for the country who was attacking, they could possible treat the country as if it had lost a war, provide restrictions or impose a fine or provide some troops to monitor that country.

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Hypocrisy and Tiananmen Square

by [Carley Kramer](#) - Friday, May 18, 2018, 10:09 PM

I appreciated that one of the provided articles mentioned another case of historical amnesia. the Tiananmen Square Massacre. Japan has been criticized by Chinese

amnesia, the Tiananmen Square Massacre, Japan has been criticized by Chinese officials for their minimization of the Rape of Nanking, as shown in this example: "Last century the aggression war waged by Japan inflicted huge and tremendous suffering and hardships on people in China, Asia and the world at large," Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said Tuesday. He urged Japan to take responsibility for its actions and said the protests should encourage "deep and profound reflections" by the Japanese." (Article #2, forum 3 materials) This is an interesting statement for the Chinese Premier to make, considering that their school books also fail to mention a massacre committed by their government. "School books in Beijing leave out significant historical events including the 1989 Tiananmen Square democracy demonstrations in which Chinese troops killed thousands of unarmed protesters, and the three-year famine between 1958 and 1961 when communist policies led to the starvation of an estimated 30 million Chinese." (Article #2, forum 3 materials) I found it particularly interesting that the Chinese Premier mentioned that "protests should encourage "deep and profound reflections" by the Japanese," because the Tiananmen Square Massacre was in response to a protest. It doesn't seem like a "deep and profound reflection" to kill thousands of unarmed protesters. This hypocritical condemnation shows that many countries don't face their own past, and should perhaps focus on addressing their history before they criticize others.

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Etch Sketch

by [Casandra Fountain](#) - Friday, May 18, 2018, 10:45 PM

Most certainly the fact the Japanese are trying to rewrite their history is disturbing. Many countries have done things during wartime that were thought to be accepted during the time and are looked down upon now. But this does not mean you can erase what generations before you did. The US put thousands of Japanese people in containment camps when Pearl Harbor was bombed. The government has since then wrote an apology for what had happened to Japanese people during WWII in America. It does not take away from the fact it happen but America acknowledged it happen.

I feel what's even more disturbing is that people still want to say the Rape of Nanking didn't happen. When there are photographs and journals and interviews of Japanese soldier who admitted their wrongdoings, you can't argue that. "The accounts include that of a sergeant major who had raped and killed a Chinese woman, and then actually joined other members of his unit in eating her flesh. Mr. Ebato says he himself trained recruits to use captured Chinese for bayonet practice." (Article #1) The first video, Nanking overview, supported similar claims and showed images to collaborate the statements. In the second video a Japanese teacher searches to find answers about her country's history and does not filter out the bad stories from this horrific time

period. This is very telling to me because she is not conforming to the rest of her country with trying to bury the past, she is trying to shed light and give the Chinese people closure.

When all the major nations of the world agree on codes to uphold humanity, what is produced is something similar to the Geneva Convention. These are rules that apply only in times of armed conflict and seek to protect people who are not or are no longer taking part in hostilities; these include the sick and wounded of armed forces on the field, wounded, sick, and shipwrecked members of armed forces at sea, prisoners of war, and civilians. (wikipedia) I would say it should even be extended past times of armed conflict to all the time. Quite frankly I don't believe that can be officially enforced to the extent they should be. All countries have to have a mutual understanding for humanity, but there lies the double edge sword. If we want to have respect for humanity there should be no war to begin with.

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Textbook Controversy

by [Jacob Spriggs](#) - Friday, May 18, 2018, 11:13 PM

I agree that Japan needs to recognize their war crimes before they can be a part of the UN, but I also believe all the countries already in the UN need to do the same. China definitely has some historic amnesia and Russia probably does too, but the US has been pretty good about acknowledging the bad parts of our history, such as how the Filipinos were treated by American troops during the war in the Phillipines at the turn of the century.

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