

PRO/CON: Should we celebrate Christopher Columbus?

By Silvio Laccetti, McClatchy Tribune, and Los Angeles Times Editorial Board, adapted by Newsela staff on 10.06.17

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A statue of Christopher Columbus stands in Providence, Rhode Island. Photo by: Kenneth G. Zirkel/Wikimedia Commons

PRO: History shows that Columbus is worth celebrating

Statues honoring Christopher Columbus are being damaged and destroyed. Columbus was the first person to sail from Europe to America. He reached America in 1492.

Celebrating Columbus Day has become a problem for some. People are angry Columbus is celebrated. Learning more about Columbus shows this anger is unfair.

Some people say Columbus caused the spread of a deadly illness called smallpox. Smallpox killed many Native Americans. Native Americans are the people who lived in America before Columbus arrived.