

Columbus Is Not Totally To Blame

Saying Columbus caused all the deaths is unfair. The deaths did not happen right after he arrived. The deaths happened over many years. Also, we do not know the exact number of Native American deaths. The counts are not exact.

Next, think about the early civilizations of the Americas. These societies mistreated people, too. They also had slaves. War, slavery and human sacrifice happened before Columbus arrived in 1492. The world has made progress. Still, even today there are wars and acts of violence.

Columbus was a brave explorer. This is why people celebrate Columbus Day. We should learn more about Columbus. We should not destroy or remove his monuments. Columbus must stay part of our history.

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CON: We must recognize that progress for some meant injustice for others

Leaders in Los Angeles, California, have changed Columbus Day. It will now be called Indigenous Peoples Day. The day will celebrate Native Americans. They are the people who lived in America before Columbus arrived.

Leaders also want to make up for years of unfair treatment.

Creating a holiday that gives people a day off is not enough. Ending Columbus Day is also not enough.

The U.S. must learn more about how badly Native Americans have been treated. Many of them were killed. Their villages were destroyed.

Can a holiday help us learn about Native Americans? Can it help us treat them and their history with more respect? Possibly.

Pay For Land Or Return It

Leaders could pay back Native American tribes for land. Or they could return the land.

Many people in the U.S. have been mistreated. This includes Native Americans. The U.S. has also welcomed millions of people from other countries. These people have come in order to live a better life.

It does not matter what the holiday is called. It should celebrate a country that wants people to be treated equally. The day should teach that this equal treatment has not always happened.