

The benefits of having race-based mascots are invoking cultural pride and exposing others to their unique culture. They give some cultures a representative if you will in their respective team. Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina's Mascot is the Mountaineers. Personally, I never felt attacked by them having a white mascot that looks like Davey Crockett. On the other hand, I can understand there is a fine line, and some may have been racist. Especially the use of generic Indian stereotypes rather than promoting their culture as it exists. The cons of race-based mascots are numerous some say it has a negative impact on native students' self-esteem which in turn affects their studies. As I stated before some can be just downright racist. Which shouldn't be tolerated at any level in our country.

**Summary** - In class my team took an opposition stance on this and talked amongst ourselves on the topic before opening the dialogue to the team across us who were in support of the idea. They presented their ideas. Then we had the chance to tell them what we learned and vice versa.

**New Learning** - They had some good points about one key argument was the marginalization of indigenous individuals. One point we made was the cost for fans to replace apparel, and the cost for smaller schools to rebrand.

**Questions?** - My question would be how has there been such minimal backlash against white mascots. I think it should be an all or nothing approach but if it is acceptable, it should be consistent with representations, and not things based on stereotypes.

**Reflection** - I liked the way the discussion was formatted and applied. I think this setup allowed for more conversation on the topic, and lead to a more thoughtful discussion between all students.