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Should We Change the Definition of “American”?

We live in such a confusing world. Should we distinguish between legal, natural-born, cultural, and ancestral definitions of what it means to be American?

In many other countries, only the native people are commonly identified by the name of that country, while those who immigrate and become citizens are often distinguished by their citizenship rather than their ancestry. For example, if I move to Mexico, I become a Mexican citizen, but I do not change my ancestry. If I move to Italy, I become an Italian citizen, but I do not become ethnically Italian.

What, then, really makes someone an American? Is it citizenship? Being natural American-family born? Shared culture? Ancestry? Indigenous or anthropological native heritage? Or is it a combination of these?

If ancestry is part of the definition, how many generations back would we go? Five? Ten? Fifteen? Twenty? Should there be different terms for legal citizenship, nationality, cultural identity, and ancestral heritage so that these conversations are more precise and less confusing?

- In order to protect natural Americans during such tumultuous and confusing times, I think so.

#usa #america #americafirst #veterans