



THE PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE

Letter to the Editor A Flag to Remember

Robert Woodard | Posted: Sunday, Dec 15, 2019

I am impressed with the work of the LGBTQ community's use of the Civil Rights Laws. Our city has acknowledged their rights by making an office for them and displaying their flag. The news media continues to tell their story. Our city has also created an office for immigrants. I say we need an office for "Non-Immigrants" who are descendants of those Chattel Slaves who built America for free.

Slavery's wrong. Don't negate the contributions of involuntary servitude. I have created a flag to commemorate them. News reporting should not be biased. All American history is important to share in order for every ethnicity to tell their story, even the descendants of "former slaves."

If the news media respects your history, it will be reported with dignity. The key to good reporting is not to allow it to become "fake news." This did not start with Donald Trump. To me it defines a time that news in the Black community was not reported on mainstream media, although it happened.

A good balance of positive as well as negative news is important as to how certain minority groups are viewed, because it can make you or break you. That type of power in our multicultural American society affects everyone. The news media has helped to promote new immigrants by using the name "Dreamers." I, however, as a descendant of "former slaves" and a Non-Immigrant, call myself a "Hoper."

America's institution of Slavery was wrong. Why is its aftermath rarely examined? I say it's because America is ashamed of it. By sweeping 400 years of Slavery under the rug, we aren't helping ourselves. So, we must do something to acknowledge it, to help bring a better understanding between all ethnicities.

We must demand that America tell the whole story, not just part of it. Let us as individuals start by examining Slavery's history in this country. Knowing the truth will set us all free. This freedom starts by exercising our First Amendment right, the freedom of expression.

In order to express yourself, you must have the ability to read, write, count and spell. History reveals that slaves were denied education. Today, many inner-city children have graduated high school, but were pushed through. They entered society with a diploma as a receipt for educational services never truly rendered. A proper education will give hope to the "children of former slaves."

A flag representing those who have suffered chattel slavery should be recognized. By acknowledging our past history, it will join this nation together to create better tomorrows. Just imagine, if America would salute those non-immigrants who built this country for free, we could move forward as one human race. Remembering where we all came from will aid us as we walk into the future.

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