Ms. Xavier’s 6th Graders built on the Sharing Your Voice aspect of their Intro to Literature Curriculum and its argument piece of informational literature resource, to weigh in with their input on the Indigenous person issue of Mascot use. They made personal connections to this as well as reacted to research.

Yes, I think it should allow teams to use native Americans' names because it has history. Also, these names have many meanings behind them. It shows respect to them. For example, in the text, it is said that they want to keep the name warrior because it has many meanings. For example, Danielle Ciampino said We shouldn't erase history, we should learn from it. Behind it also says it would feel like erasing history and people will not be happy about it and will fight for it. As well, in my own and thinking I suggest keeping it because it will show respect to all the Native Americans. Another reason is that in the second passage it spoke that some parents think the government is erasing history and further disrespecting Native Americans which goes with my and Danielle Ciampino’s opinions. Also, even though people don't want Native Americans' names on sports teams' names, how would you feel if your name was on a billboard? Most would feel amazed and in shock, so let's show some respect to them. So these are my reasons we should keep Native American names.

Araf Ainan 650

Schools should not be able to use Native American images and names for their sports teams. Here are my specific reasons schools should not be able to use Native American names and images.

I strongly believe schools should not be able to use Native American images and names for their sports teams. The sport team's name is going to be stereotypical to indigenous related monikers. The names and images are racially insensitive and some citizens might find the names and images insulting. In the text, "New York State Says No to Native Mascots'' by Reha Nayyar, one example states "[Native American-related nicknames](https://nypost.com/2022/11/18/nys-tells-schools-to-ditch-racist-native-american-mascots-or-risk-state-funding/) as part of a politically correct national effort to scrub racially insensitive imagery from sports teams." Another example states "Braves'' and “Warriors” with accompanying side-profile caricatures of indigenous men with feathered war bonnets, red skin tones, and aggressive expressions."

My final example states "Indian mascots and stereotypes present a misleading image of Indian people and feed the historic myths that have been used to whitewash a history of oppression, the National Congress of American Indians stated on its [website ahead](https://www.ncai.org/policy-issues/community-and-culture/anti-defamation-mascots) of a nationwide campaign to eliminate harmful and derogatory imagery of Indigenous people from educational environments." All of this shows why I strongly believe that schools should not use Native American names and images for sport teams.

Cairo Noel 650

"Indian mascots and stereotypes present a misleading image of Indian people and feed the historic myths that have been used to whitewash a history of oppression,” Therefore, I think schools should not use Native American for their images and names for their sport. One reason is requests of local Indigenous populations are accusing the government of “erasing history” and “further disrespecting Native Americans.” Native Americans can find it offensive and rude because they might think they are mocking them. Also, schools should not be putting other people's pictures without their consent. Another reason is, “Longstanding [research](https://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/indian-mascots) also indicates that the use of Indigenous mascots and team names, which lean into negative and dehumanizing stereotypes of surviving Indigenous populations." This shows a negative impact on Native people. Therefore I think schools should not be allowed to use Native American images and names for their sports teams.

Ratri Sikder 650 (Anshu’s little sister)

Did you know they are banning Native American mascot names in all NYC public schools? Names like Warriors, Braves Chiefs and Redmen will all become banned. Did you also know that they are trying to imply this rule all throughout schools in NYS? Here's what I think. I believe that NYC public schools should be able to use Native American mascots for their sports teams because it has a meaning that others just don't understand. For example, in the text it mentions: ' she was praying we don't lose our Warrior name, because Warrior can have so many meanings. This tells me that not only me but lots of others agree that Native American mascot names have good meanings that others think are disrespectful. Another reason I think that NYC public schools should be able to have Native American mascot names is because in the text it mentions, we shouldn't be erasing history, we should learn from it. This makes me realize parents feel like taking away Native American mascot names will erase the school's history. Another reason I stick with the reason that NYC public schools should be able to have Native American mascot names is because schools can represent Native American culture. For example, why do you think that all these schools have Native American mascot names? I'll tell you why. All of them are just trying to represent Native American culture by using them as mascot names.

Rayaan Saleem 650

Schools should not have these Native related mascots since it's humiliating to society and its names such as "Indians", "Tomahawks", etc, are rude to the Native Americans.

For example, why it's humiliating to society is because in the text it says the right thing to do. “We hope to elevate people, not diminish them. We want to elevate all people,” Regent Kathleen Cashin told The Post over the phone. Which shows its humiliation to society. Another example is that it is rude because they are human, not mascots. These pieces of evidence show that these mascots are humiliating Native Americans and making fun of their names.

Therefore, every school should get rid of these related Native American mascots since it's humiliating them and making fun of the name.

Marwa Maqsood 660

To an extent, I believe the ban is justified, but there is a part of it where I simply do not agree with it. I think the name banning is irrational, but specific mascots being banned is justified. Some mascots are indeed very offensive but some are actually honoring the Native American tradition. In the second article, there is a photo of people protesting and on a poster it says "We are people, not mascots, change the name" This shows the people are clearly upset about the mascot and it is affecting them. Also, the St. John's logo was mocking the Native American culture. They used a racist and stereotypical characteristics. The headpiece and clothing is only worn for tradition. In the text, it says, "Indian mascots and stereotypes present a misleading image of Indian people and feed the historic myths that have been used to whitewash a history of oppression." This shows that these mascots are misleading and harmful. Not only are they insulting the Native Americans, but they are also sending the wrong message to students. These mascots are reinforcing stereotypical and harmful assumptions about Native Americans.

Diora Ergashova 660