

Marrowdill



94/

Mr. Pogreba

AP Language

10 September 2017

In the middle of historic downtown Helena lies a lovely, verdant park on a sloping hill with a towering, bubbling fountain at its crest. During especially hot summers, my little sister would fill water balloons at that fountain as a way to escape the blistering heat and spend time with her friends. It is a charming picture; however, it's also an ignominious **and ignorant attitude toward** a fountain that ignores the reality of a racially-tinged monument in the capital city of Montana. **The fountain, erected by the Daughters of the Confederacy, honors the racist history of the South during the Civil War, revises the particularly uncomfortable parts of that history, and disregards America's most basic values in its very existence.**

I'd like to see the (T) and the argument of paper shift away from a list.

The fountain represents an era of history that has no business being honored. The fountain remembered the Confederacy in a favorable way. Pam Attardo, a Helena/Lewis and Clark County Historic Preservation Officer doesn't see the fountain "as a symbol of hatred itself" (Source A), but Pam and those like her who maintain that the fountain is not a hate-mongering symbol are entirely missing the point. The fountain is not inherently racist in its structure or form like a statue might be, but its history clearly honors America's history of slavery and white supremacy. The Daughters of the Confederacy openly supported the KKK and **white supremacist movements (Source D)**, and in order to spread their message, they dedicated pretty fountains to the Soldiers of the Confederacy—half a century after they lost their war. **The fountain's beauty just emphasizes how positively the Daughters looked at the Confederacy**

make this stronger - benign?

✓

) good'

This TP could do more to connect this interesting idea that beauty of statue itself = problematic.

wlc

and its soldiers. Racism is an unfortunately prominent part of America's his-  
be remembered and learned from, but it should never be honored.

Racism is an ugly part of America's past that cannot and should not be forgotten, but **the fountain was a biased and limited historical resource by itself**. The fountain doesn't commemorate a realistic view of history but provides a one-sided and offensive narrative surrounding race and slavery in America. **The Daughters of the Confederacy erected the fountain in Helena in 1916 over 50 years after the end of the Civil War to praise the "Lost Cause"—a movement specifically designed to rewrite the racist history of the Civil War to a "just and noble cause" (Source F).** Monuments which honor America's racist history in order to alter it belong in museums where they can provide a more complete narrative in the correct context. Some would say taking down the monument erases history, but leaving it up does something much worse—entirely rewriting the racist parts of it. **Taking the fountain restores the history behind it. As Lisa Richardson from the LA Times put it, "History isn't being erased, but it is being corrected" (Source B).** The fountain's complex history isn't obvious from the outside; all it has are a few words painting the Confederacy in a positive light. When the Daughters of the Confederacy erected the fountain and dedicated it with the words "A Longing Tribute to Our Confederate Soldiers," they were expressly trying to support the Lost Cause and change the history of the Confederacy and the Civil War to a **glossy, yet untrue** narrative. Even now, there are those who believe that the Civil War was never so much about slavery as states' rights. The Civil War was unequivocally fought over slavery. There were other issues involved in the fight, like states' rights and economics—but all of the issues come back to slavery. Slavery and extreme racism cannot be separated from the Civil War just as the fountain

Transition here  
is a  
little  
off as  
last TP  
wasn't  
primarily  
racism

I'm not  
sure this  
we  
captures  
your  
meaning

Be  
careful  
about  
repeating  
this  
claim

cannot be separated from its history. **Even the article written in 1916 celebrating the fountain's construction acknowledged its irrevocable link to its origins— “[The fountain] will long keep bright the memory of the organization that donated it” (Source E)** The problem is that wrapped in a pretty, multi-tiered package, the fountain only keeps alive the **Daughters' view of the Confederacy—neither a complete nor accurate one.** The skewed view that many people have of the Civil War today are because of the partial success of revisionist histories like the Lost Cause movement. The forgetting of history is only aided by the fountain; leaving it up does not enhance the people's view of the Civil War, the Confederacy, or the many years following—it masks and biases it.

As a community, it is necessary to denounce the fountain and what it stands for. Individuals in this country have relatively free speech and can believe what they wish, but the government has no place allowing racist <sup>encouraging?</sup> memorials to be displayed in public areas. Racism goes directly against one of the most oft-quoted parts of the U.S. Declaration of Independence, the self-evident truth that “all men are created equal.” Such an important part of a fundamental document of the U.S. needs to be observed and supported by the government. **As the American Indian Caucus of the Montana Legislature said, discriminatory and bigoted organizations “dishonor the basic principles of equality on which this nation exists” (Source D).** People should be able to walk around town without a racist monument bubbling happily, unperturbed, just around the corner. Montana was not even a state during the Civil War (Source C), and yet, even here, the Confederates' bigoted rhetoric has permeated, trying to convince the public the fountain wasn't created for the express purpose of warping history, attempting to associate the Confederacy with positive images and heartfelt dedications, and slowly degrading the unpleasant

but unavoidable truths of much of the country during that era. Its original purpose rejects the founding ideals of the United States of America. Leaving such a monument out in the open—even with a plaque attempting to explain the fountain's continued existence—betrays both the old and new ideals of our nation. The fountain and other memorials like it belong where items of the past go—a museum. The government should reject items that reject US ideals and not allow such relics in public areas.

The Confederate monument in Helena was fun for my little sister—all the memories she had ever associated with the words “Tribute to the Confederacy” were positive. In a twisted way, the sisters got what they wanted from the fountain, for a while. But now, no little girl will have to walk past the monument and wonder why a tribute to those who enslaved her family is still standing. Now a complete historical narrative can be given to the fountain and its revisionist history can be erased. To honor this fountain is to honor a false history, all while forgetting the truth and spurning the values of the United States. Taking it down was the correct choice to honor our nation and our history, and to restore an accurate, if uncomfortable, view of the Confederacy and the Civil War.

In this TP, I'd do  
a bit more still to  
explain why govt.  
Especially should not  
do this.

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Mr. Pogreba  
AP Language  
10 September 2017

Somewhere in opening TP,  
12 more specifically  
117 the fountain  
you are referring to.

90

good hook!

Contextually,  
this in  
non form  
doesn't  
flow well  
here

In the middle of historic downtown Helena lies a lovely, verdant park on a sloping hill with a towering, bubbling fountain at its crest. During especially hot summers, my little sister would fill water balloons at that fountain as a way to escape the blistering heat and spend time with her friends. It is a charming picture; however, it's also an ignominious romanticism of a fountain that ignores the reality of a racially-tinged monument in the capital city of Montana.

The fountain represents an era of history that has no business being honored. The fountain remembered the confederacy in an all-too-positive way. Those who maintain that the fountain is not a hate-mongering symbol like Pam Attardo in (Source A) a Helena/Lewis and Clark County Historic Preservation Officer because she doesn't see the fountain "as a symbol of hatred itself", are entirely missing the point. The fountain is not inherently racist in its structure or form like a statue might be, but its history clearly honors America's history of slavery and white supremacy. The daughters of the Confederacy erected the fountain in Helena in 1916 over 50 years after the end of the Civil War to praise the "Lost Cause"—a movement specifically designed to rewrite the racist history of the civil war to a "just and noble cause" (Source F). The daughters of the Confederacy openly supported the KKK and racist movements like the Lost Cause, and in order to spread their message, they dedicated pretty fountains to the Soldiers of the Confederacy—half a century after they lost their war. The fountain was used to further the spread of racist ideas in America and portray them as fair and honorable. Racism is an

I'd use the current T as your bridge and then offer a more conventional T right after

1 sentence gets a bit confusing w/ her title

really good

This sentence feels like it just rewards and repeats what you just said

Instead of repeating the claim, do more to show why the HF does this

unfortunately prominent part of America's history, and it needs to be remembered and learned from, but it should never be honored.

Racism is an ugly part of America's past that cannot and should not be forgotten, but just as fountains aren't inherently racist, neither are they inherently historic. The fountain doesn't commemorate a realistic view of history but provides a one-sided and offensive narrative surrounding race and slavery in America. Monuments which honor America's negative history belong in museums where they can provide a more complete narrative in the correct context.

Some would say taking down the monument erases history, but leaving it up does something much worse—entirely rewriting the racist parts of it. The fountain's complex history isn't obvious from the outside; all it has are a few words painting the confederacy in a positive light. When the daughters of the Confederacy erected the fountain and dedicated it with the words "A Longing Tribute to Our Confederate Soldiers," they were expressly trying to support the Lost Cause and change the history of the Confederacy and the Civil War to a positive narrative. Even now, there are those who believe that the Civil War was never so much about slavery as states' rights. The Civil War was unequivocally fought over slavery. There were other issues involved in the fight, like states' rights and economics—but all of the issues come back to slavery. Slavery and extreme racism cannot be separated from the civil war just as the fountain cannot be separated from its history. The skewed view that many people have of the Civil War today are because of the partial success of revisionist histories like the Lost Cause movement. The forgetting of history is only aided by the fountain: leaving it up does not enhance the people's view of the Civil War, the Confederacy, or the many years following—it masks and biases it.

(TS) is probably  
a bit  
wordy.  
Condense  
the  
transition  
part

elevate your  
diction w/  
more  
precise language

There's  
a lot of  
good  
stuff  
here, but  
it overlaps  
IP 1 a  
fair  
amount.  
Making one  
exclusively  
about  
racism/  
slavery  
and the  
other  
Lost  
Cause/  
revisionism,  
will  
make that  
stronger



1/2 focus on community or city



As a country, it is necessary to denounce the fountain and what it stands for. Individuals in this country have relatively free speech and can believe what they wish, but the government has no place allowing racist memorials to be displayed in public areas. Racism goes directly against one of the most oft-quoted parts of the U.S. Declaration of Independence, the self-evident truth that "all men are created equal". Such an important part of a fundamental document of the U.S. needs to be observed and supported by the government. People should be able to walk around town without a racist monument bubbling happily, unperturbed, just around the corner.

Monuments on government-owned land that openly promote racism and inequality have no place in a nation that is built on equality and freedom. Montana was not even a state during the Civil War (Source C), and yet, even here, the Confederates' bigoted rhetoric has permeated, trying to convince the public the fountain wasn't created for the express purpose of warping history, attempting to associate the confederacy with positive images and heartfelt dedications, and slowly degrading the unpleasant but unavoidable truths of much of the country during that era. Its original purpose rejects the founding ideals of the United States of America. Leaving such a monument out in the open—even with a plaque attempting to explain the fountain's continued existence—betrays both the old and new ideals of our nation. The fountain and other memorials like it belong where items of the past go—a museum. The government should reject items that reject US ideals and not allow such relics in public areas.

The Confederate monument in Helena was fun for my little sister—all the memories she had ever associated with the words "Tribute to the Confederacy" were positive. In a twisted way, the sisters got what they wanted from the fountain, for a while. But now, no little girl will have to walk past the monument and wonder why a tribute to those who enslaved her family is still

That's a scary phrase

Instead of what feels like a repeat of your claim, talk about why it's unilaterally bad for govt. to sponsor this

standing. Now a complete historical narrative can be given to the fountain and its revisionist history can be erased. To honor this fountain is to honor a false history, all while forgetting the truth and spurning the values of the United States. Taking it down was the correct choice to honor our nation and our history, and to restore an accurate, if uncomfortable, view of the Confederacy and the Civil War.

great start!

For revision -

- focus on incorporating a bit more source material and replacing some repeated claims w/ more analysis.
  - Clarifying the distinction between BP 1/2 would also help.
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