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American Studies

U.S. History

1 September 2020

Community In The United States

Over the past few months it has felt as if the United States has never been more divided. In order for America to unite again, people must remember the values of our country first introduced by the Puritans. Ten years after the Mayflower, a group of Puritans led by John Winthrop landed in New England and established the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The Puritans valued hard work and honesty and desired to be a model society. In spite of the history of valuing strong communities within the United States, the nation is struggling with coming together during these difficult times. America is not living up to its core values involving community.

The current election has caused a divide within the country which has weakened the sense of community in America. According to The Atlantic, “Whichever side ultimately prevails in November, red and blue America are diverging along both demographic and geographic lines as sharply as at any other point in modern American history. The biggest lesson of the coming year may be that for all the divisiveness that President Donald Trump has stoked, the political divide may still continue to grow wider.” The election is very polarizing and is

causing unrest. The nation is fortunate enough to be able to have freedom of thought and speech, and our citizens are taking advantage of their rights. Consequently, this causes much tension and unease. Bringing up politics at gatherings has never been more taboo. Political beliefs are blinding our country and making people do irrational things. Simple things such as family gatherings or talking with your friends about the election can cause unnecessary arguments. It feels as if there is a political war. All in all, America is currently not a unified country.

PASO, TEXAS. MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES



Secondly, the protest and movements have caused tension which has negatively affected America's sense of community. The death of George Floyd was one of the most significant moments in history. Stated by Washington Post, "The outpouring of anger over Floyd's killing — intensified by social media

videos shared around the world of the incident and the diverse demonstrations that followed — emboldened existing movements over racial violence and discrimination against minorities.” Clearly stated, the death of George Floyd caused a movement in history. This movement involved heavy protests, some peaceful and some not. Some protests involved the burning of our flag, vandalism and theft. This caused anger within citizens because they felt that the protesters were getting out of control. Some would argue that protesters had to go to the extreme in order to be heard. To summarize, this movement caused much divide within the country, making the community within the United States close to non-existent.

MAY 26TH, A DAY AFTER THE VIDEO HAD BEEN SHARED.
KEREM YUCEL/AGENCE AND FRANCE-PRESSE-GETTY IMAGES



As one can see, America is currently going through a crazy year, and the people are not coming together as one to handle the several situations. From the election to historical movements, the country is at unrest. The citizens of the United States need to come together to conquer the obstacles that have been thrown. In conclusion, America is not acting like a community, ignoring the core values.

Work Cited

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