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Everyday, whether you realize it or not, people are using history to influence their everyday life. Many people use history to help form and prove their ideas and political stances. However, sometimes the historical facts used are biased and taken out of context. When this happens, the idea becomes skewed and, therefore, not factual. People will use everything from their heritage to “facts” they found on the internet without additional research. People can also lie about history to get people on their side. Different people do this from all ranges to age and positions of powers. No one is safe from bias. To form a reasonable opinion, a person has to do research on both sides of the argument and only form their opinion. Another bias factor is emotional bias. Someone’s idea could and typically are secured by emotions and how the person feels about a topic—also one of the most significant factors in religion and the views of that religion. Christianity is a primary culprit of this and their stances on homosexuality and abortion. Some people form their opinions around their religious beliefs and what is written in their holy texts. There are many examples of this today where people use US history to construct their arguments and ideas. Most of US history has and can be used to influence opinions about current events. The artifacts I have chosen will be linked at the end of the paper.

One example is with the 2020 election and the political party system. The first president George Washington in his last speech as the president, warned the American people about a multi-party system and how it can affect the country. George

Washington stated, " However [political parties] may now and then answer popular ends, they are likely in the course of time and things, to become potent engines, by which cunning, ambitious, and unprincipled men will be enabled to subvert the power of the people and to usurp for themselves the reins of government, destroying afterward the very engines which have lifted them to unjust dominion." The multi-party system has divided the American people even more, every year. People's ideas and beliefs are, most of the time, in line with their political party. Today, the two major political parties, the democrats and the republicans, have two drastically different views on various topics. The republican party is very conservative, and their ideas follow the ideas of the church. On the other hand, democrats follow a liberal view, and their thoughts are more aligned with emotional and personal preference. The artifact I have chosen talks about George Washington's stance on political parties and disregarding that after his presidency.

Another example and artifact are about Black Lives Matter. African Americans have not had the best existence in America. Throughout the years, they have been oppressed and taken advantage of. Even today, 157 years after the Abolishment of slavery African Americans still are not treated fairly. In the wake of police brutality and many African Americans' death at the police's hands, protests and riots have broken out. These protests are fighting for change and fighting for the people responsible for being held accountable for their actions. With hundreds of years of oppression behind them, the demonstrations are fighting for change to the system that oppressed them for years. The artifact I have chosen is another meme about the Jim crow laws established after

the civil war. The artifact demonstrates what it felt like as A newly freed slave in America and getting hit by these laws that take away the rights you were just given.

The final example and artifact have to do with the treatment of Native Americans. People today believe that immigrants are coming into the US and destroying our way of life. Historical examples of these primarily European immigrants come over to us and destroy the Native American's ways of life. During the pre-Columbian era, Native Americans lived everywhere and undisturbed by European powers. The Native culture was thriving and growing all over the Americas. However, after Christopher Columbus found America, the Native populations were destroyed by colonizers and the diseases they brought. The Native people were moved and demolished to make room for the new settlers coming over from Europe. Millions were killed by colonists and by disease. Even today, Native Americans were moved to reservations, most of the time nowhere near their original homes. Today these reservations are still in use and are some of the poorest places in America. In some cases, some fundamental rights are neglected on these reservations. The Native Americans were the first people in the US and expanded everywhere. Nevertheless, most of them were destroyed by the European settlers and the American government. The artifact I found is an article by the Center for American Progress. It talks about how covid 19 has ravaged the Native American reservations. Also, it talks about how slow the response has been to help these people in the fight against Covid 19.

There are many more problems that happened in 2020 that stem from historical events. However, I believe these were some of the main issues I could talk about properly.

Artifact links

1-<https://www.facebook.com/aphistorymemes/photos/as-the-first-president-of-the-united-states-of-america-george-washington-had-str/711515205897972/>

2-

[https://www.google.com/search?q=US+reconstruction+memes&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwibwpze5LztAhVGf8KHZRkAPoQ2-](https://www.google.com/search?q=US+reconstruction+memes&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwibwpze5LztAhVGf8KHZRkAPoQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=US+reconstruction+memes&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzICCAA6BAgAEBg6BggAEAgQHjoFCAAQsQM6BAgAEEM6BwgAELEDEEM6BAgAEB5Qp-kFWKDHBmCuyAZoAHAAeACAAfMBiAGHGplBBzlyLjEwLjGYAQCgAQQgqAQtnD3Mtd2l6LWltZ8ABAQ&sclient=img&ei=8prOX5sBxqz8BpTJgdAP&bih=754&biw=1536&rlz=1C1CHBF_enUS912US912#imgrc=pJtx3xmC6dwkGM)

[cCegQIABAA&oq=US+reconstruction+memes&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzICCAA6BAgAEBg6BggAEAgQHjoFCAAQsQM6BAgAEEM6BwgAELEDEEM6BAgAEB5Qp-](https://www.google.com/search?q=US+reconstruction+memes&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzICCAA6BAgAEBg6BggAEAgQHjoFCAAQsQM6BAgAEEM6BwgAELEDEEM6BAgAEB5Qp-kFWKDHBmCuyAZoAHAAeACAAfMBiAGHGplBBzlyLjEwLjGYAQCgAQQgqAQtnD3Mtd2l6LWltZ8ABAQ&sclient=img&ei=8prOX5sBxqz8BpTJgdAP&bih=754&biw=1536&rlz=1C1CHBF_enUS912US912#imgrc=pJtx3xmC6dwkGM)

[kFWKDHBmCuyAZoAHAAeACAAfMBiAGHGplBBzlyLjEwLjGYAQCgAQQgqAQtnD3Mtd2l6LWltZ8ABAQ&sclient=img&ei=8prOX5sBxqz8BpTJgdAP&bih=754&biw=1536&rlz=1](https://www.google.com/search?q=US+reconstruction+memes&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzICCAA6BAgAEBg6BggAEAgQHjoFCAAQsQM6BAgAEEM6BwgAELEDEEM6BAgAEB5Qp-kFWKDHBmCuyAZoAHAAeACAAfMBiAGHGplBBzlyLjEwLjGYAQCgAQQgqAQtnD3Mtd2l6LWltZ8ABAQ&sclient=img&ei=8prOX5sBxqz8BpTJgdAP&bih=754&biw=1536&rlz=1C1CHBF_enUS912US912#imgrc=pJtx3xmC6dwkGM)

[C1CHBF_enUS912US912#imgrc=pJtx3xmC6dwkGM](https://www.google.com/search?q=US+reconstruction+memes&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzICCAA6BAgAEBg6BggAEAgQHjoFCAAQsQM6BAgAEEM6BwgAELEDEEM6BAgAEB5Qp-kFWKDHBmCuyAZoAHAAeACAAfMBiAGHGplBBzlyLjEwLjGYAQCgAQQgqAQtnD3Mtd2l6LWltZ8ABAQ&sclient=img&ei=8prOX5sBxqz8BpTJgdAP&bih=754&biw=1536&rlz=1C1CHBF_enUS912US912#imgrc=pJtx3xmC6dwkGM)

3-<https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/green/reports/2020/06/18/486480/covid-19-response-indian-country/>