**Case Study: What are State Statues?**

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Course

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Statues on exhibit in public parks, squares, shopping malls, and public buildings are referred to as state statues. It may be possible to make an exception for statues shown in certain types of public museums or galleries. The emphasis on statues extends to portraits and other portrayals of historical personalities on public display (Frowe, 2019). Much of what applies to other categories of cultural property that do not portray historical figures but are in some way connected to them, such as structures named after such figures, can be applied to them with minor modifications.

A sculpture or figure that depicts a person or an animal is known as a statue. A state statue is a created picture that honours a notable individual, incident or deed from earlier times (Bonţeanu, 2010). The state monument is surrounded by ancient events which will be preserved throughout posterity to remember.

The principles and concepts memorialised on public land, whether it is a structure, monument, debris or murals shape what really people choose to remember. The goals and principles symbolised through public remembrance are typically ideas that are revered in a community such as diligence, integrity and courage. According to VanWarmer, 2021, these ideas influence the connections between individuals within a given group simply because they have been deemed sufficient in importance to be remembered openly in the very beginning.

Although most of the aforementioned monuments advocate positive ideas, such as memorialising and creating sculptures praising the nation and its representatives, they also memorialise individuals that have ethical principles founded on racial bias murder and injustice. This continued admiration on such images on government property signals the community that those who oppressed them have been recognised as champions, while also demonstrating that the community in which people occupy permits them to continue exploitation.

As a result, the bonds formed between individuals in a population according to the society's selected ideas influences their sense of personal identities. One's own identity is also influenced by a person's affiliation and close interaction with the perspectives from the community in which they reside. Depending on what society chooses to promote, these beliefs are able to honour and respect the person or produce harmful narratives (VanWarmer, 2021).

The effects of these monuments are founded on the idea that the things a community decides to memorialise has an impact on the actual circumstances of its neighbourhood, as well as how such particular sculptures influences the present situation of racism in the nation's capital (Gordon-Reed 2018). These monuments have been installed in order to deliver a message about discrimination as well as to sentimentalise individuals who fiercely struggled to keep slavery in place. Occasionally, there is a huge enlightenment within the entire nation in terms of systematic abuse by law enforcement and understanding the emotion and passion that has driven disenfranchised people to participate in physical resistance.

Other locations, such as battlefields and cemeteries (Walsh, 2020), can serve as places of remembrance, but this only implies that they will better contextualise the message of the state statue. When there are large demonstrations and renewed efforts, statues are considered emblems of slavery and bigotry and are consequently vandalised, taken down, or removed by demonstrators or public officials. A significant violation of human rights provides enough justification in a state to demolish a public statue of that person. Keeping public statues commemorating egregious human rights violators is incompatible with the state's obligation to condemn and renounce grave injustice. There are numerous reasons to remove Confederate soldier statues, including the fact that they inflict distress, give attention to white supremacist ideologies, and reinforce current societal inequities (Frowe, 2019).

State monuments serve as historical, present-day, and foreseeable time capsules. They additionally give tangible evidence of a country's essential identity. As a result, monuments are created all over the world for a variety of purposes (Mulualem, 2017). Many countries erect monuments to honour nationalists, valiant soldiers and female protagonists and also to impart mythological experiences to represent the nation's character, to safeguard artefacts, to improve the appearance of metropolitan areas and to validate control. It educates future generations about the importance of historical monuments in a country.

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