Background: Currently many statues memorializing and commemorating historical figures are being brought before the court of public opinion. While some in society support keeping those statues for their purported historical value, others push for their removal. Should statues depicting controversial figures be allowed to stand? Or should they be removed? Should society evaluate these statues through a modern ethical lens?

Essential Question (non-googleable)

*To what extent should presentism\* and/or modern values factor into a society’s decision to keep or remove statues depicting controversial historical figures?*

\*the uncritical adherence to present-day attitudes, especially the tendency to interpret past evens in terms of modern values and concepts

Relevant links to explore:

<https://www.historyextra.com/period/modern/historical-figures-statues-judge-morals-today/>

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/14/world/statues-robert-lee-churchill-colston-columbus-intl/index.html>

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/09/us/confederate-statues-removed-george-floyd-trnd/index.html>

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7049120/montreal-john-a-macdonald-statue-removal-petition/>

<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thesundayedition/the-past-is-not-the-present-do-food-animals-have-rights-alberto-manguel-s-curious-mind-the-great-hunger-1.3497315/the-allure-and-the-dangers-of-presentism-1.3497463>