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WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT NEW NAME WOULD CONTAIN NO NATIVE IMAGERY REPRESENTS CULMINATION OF LONG STRUGGLE

The announcement by the Washington Football Team (WFT) today that its new name and logo would include no Native American imagery represents the culmination of decades of struggle against a racial slur that was begun by Native Americans and later joined by non-native allies such as Rebrand Washington Football (RWF).

Team President Jason Wright made the announcement on the WFT website.

"As a Jew, I know how it feels for people to use stereotypes against you," said RWF co-founder Josh Silver. "That's why I co-founded RWF. I am pleased the team moved away from stereotypes. It feels like a weight has been lifted off of our collective shoulders."

"We are grateful that owner Daniel Snyder and president Jason Wright finally listened to reason and not only changed a name that was a dictionary-defined slur against Native Americans but also disavowed any name containing Native imagery, such as 'Warriors,'" said RWF co-founder Bill Mosley. "During a time when a spotlight was turned on racism in American society, the racist name of Snyder's team could not escape scrutiny. We hope this proves an example and leads to the removal of all racially offensive team names and imagery at the professional, college and scholastic levels."

"This is the best possible outcome going forward," said RWF co-founder Ian Washburn. "No more native-themed mascots is the best policy."

RWF was founded in 2015 to support a longstanding effort by Native American activists to change the team's name. RWF has circulated petitions that collected more than 10,000 signatures from the public demanding a change and delivered them to the team's Ashburn headquarters each December for five years. The group also campaigned for the removal of the monument at RFK Stadium to George Preston Marshall, the team's founder who adopted its racist name and kept the team all-white until pressured by the Kennedy administration to integrate in 1962 as a condition for being allowed to build the stadium on federally owned land. The DC government removed the monument in June.

RWF also issued a [study](#) documenting the use of demeaning Native American team names and logos around the country and the psychological harm they cause to Native communities, especially children.

RWF vowed to continue as an organization, with its next task being to ensure that the team fulfills its promise to quickly and thoroughly carry out the promised changes to its name and logo.

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