

ABOLISH THE 'N' WORD

www.abolishtheword.com

Our community has come full circle as we extend an invitation to others to call us the "N" word as well and we answer with a smile. Our ancestors must be rocking in their graves. The "N" word is not a term of endearment. It cannot be reappropriated. We cannot redefine the "N" word or re-spell it to make it positive. Racism is so subtle, we now think that we can embrace the "N" word and take away its power. However, not enough time has passed for this concept to be effective. The word is viewed as a racial slur at large, it will continue to be so until it is put away for a generation, and then maybe it can be embraced at such time in a historical context.

Until the pain of this word no longer lingers in society for any of us, we cannot continue to use the "N" word. Every time we use the "N" word it is a slap in the face of our elders and a blatant disrespect to our ancestors. We have not only lost our minds, but we've lost consciousness.

The dependency of this word as a greeting, to complete sentences and start conversations is a total disregard for every movement that gave us the many freedoms we enjoy today. This site is our answer to a call to duty. We now challenge you to make a personal commitment and join us in the movement to abolish the "N" word.

The "N" word was used to refer to slaves throughout the 1700's and 1800's. Previous to this time the label "Moor" was given to men & women of color. By the early 1900's the word "Black" began to appear in print in reference to African Americans. The term was rejected by the community because of its negative connotations and in 1906 Booker T Washington endorsed the term "Negro". The "N" word, once a common label used for African American people official becomes a derogatory racial epithet.

As the late 1960's approached so did a surge of racial pride and the term "Black" was taken on by the African American community as positive. The Black Power Movement proclaimed "Black is Beautiful". The followers of this movement called each other "Brother and Sister" denouncing the use of the "N" word.

Today the African American community still differs in its use of the word Nigger. As some use a neo revisionist attitude in an attempt to redefine the word, still others do not use the word in their vocabulary at all. In 2003, the NAACP successfully influenced Merriam-Webster Lexicographers to change the definition of the word Nigger in the dictionary so that it would no longer mean African Americans.

Teach Love, Not Hate. - Love, Goldie DeWitt