



December 12, 2016

Chairperson Silva Burley
California Valley Miwok
4620 Shipper Lane
Stockton, CA 95212

Dear Chairperson Burley:

Change the Mascot is a grassroots campaign to educate tribal communities, professional sports teams and their management, colleges and universities, grade schools and high schools, the media, and the public about the negative psychological effects on Native Americans from the continued use of stereotypical mascots and racial slurs, such as the "R*dsk*ns" and "Chief Wahoo".

This civil and human rights movement has helped reshape the debate surrounding the Washington football team's name and brought the issue to the forefront of social consciousness. The Washington football team does not represent me, my family, or my tribal community in any way.

- The "R-word" is *not* a benign word that refers to the color of a person's skin. It is *not* a word of honor, courage, or respect.
- The "R-word" refers to bounty paid for the murder of native peoples. Native peoples were slaughtered and bounty hunters would rip the skin from the bodies of the victims in order to receive payment.
- The "R-word" is a violent word, a word that is offensive, demeaning, and degrading to native peoples. It is a word, a name, a mascot that should *not* be cheered or celebrated.

Support for the Change the Mascot campaign continues to bring this issue into the public spotlight and works toward a common respect of all peoples. I would like to share with you one of the ways I am supporting this most important campaign and encourage you to demonstrate your support. I have enclosed 30 t-shirts to distribute to your tribal members. Together, we can Change the Name...Change the Mascot.

For more information about Change the Mascot, please visit: www.changethemascot.org and <https://www.youtube.com/watch>.

Sincerely,

James Kinter
Tribal Secretary

Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation

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