**AXE 8 TERRITORY & MEMORY**

**FOCUS 1: METAL AND STONE**

***\*To whitewash the past =***

**Mission 1: Look at the images and captions on doc 1 and doc 2.**

1. What is the link between the two pictures?
2. Describe the photo on doc 1. To what extent does this photo represent a divided nation?

**Mission 2: Watch the video**

Confederate monuments, The Telegraph, 2017

Watch and take notes on the following topics:

* The Confederacy
* The history of these statues
* Arguments FOR keeping the statues
* Arguments AGAINST keeping the statues

DONALD TRUMP’S POSITION:

**Conclusion: This video highlights the controversy around the debate of removing Confederate statues or not in the USA.**

What do you think of this controversy?

This controversy is very difficult to solve. Even for people who are against the history of violence and systemic racism, the idea of tearing down a statue is not an obvious solution.

**On the one hand, I think it would be good to take away the daily reminder of slavery and violence.**

**On the other hand, these statues serve as a warning against making the same mistakes in the future.** (example: Some monuments MUST STAND as SILENT REMINDERS like Auschwitz, for instance)

**The importance of statues and memorials**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Statues = works of art | Statues = Political tools |
| - have aesthetic values  - are cast, carved / set in stone so are meant to last nearly forever - have historical values, are remnants of long-gone artists, influences, ideas, materials, tools and skills - are often exhibited in public places they help beautifying  - art is above politics  - even if you don’t admire the heroes represented, you can nevertheless admire the artistic techniques / craft / practice that went into their carving. | - help us to remember heroic events as well as darker eras of our history - don’t necessarily reflect the opinion of an entire community - can be used as propaganda tools  - may be erected to glorify / commemorate heroes but also tyrants or dictators  - can be viewed as shrines but can also have racist or supremacist overtones  - are sometimes an eyesore for some members of a community |

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