

“Do something good . . . Is labeling someone a racist doing good?”

The Bethlehem Gadfly Columbus monument September 23, 2020

 Latest in a series of posts on the Columbus monument 

Bob Davenport is PA born and raised for 25 years. Now a retired railroad (but not the man at the throttle) Engineer, a CE graduate of Lehigh U, a Catholic attending daily mass and praying for a better world without apparent success. An optimist.

ref: **“Ok, what do you think will happen with the Columbus monument removal request”**

Gadfly:

From merriam-webster.com: “First Known Use of genocide 1944, in the meaning defined above”

According to this, Columbus could not have committed Genocide because it hadn't been “invented” yet. We should have historians rank every well known leader on an “evil” scale and see what Columbus rates; include every culture, not only the Eurocentric ones. What we need in this country are more things to argue about causing physical changes that will cause consternation and more disruption between affinity groups and individuals.

I'm sure the Italian American community did not extol Columbus because he “showed the indigenous people who was boss.” Enjoy the bench and the setting and ignore the monument if you must and say a prayer in atonement for the sins you think Christopher committed.

I would suggest a plaque that alludes to possible monument misrepresentations or negative Columbus perceptions with the following address on the bottom: **St. Labre Indian School; Ashland, Montana; 59004**. Those concerned could send a donation there to augment what little I give to the school. I think this would lead to good feelings all around. If you are perfect and must have retribution, take a sledge to it.

Thanks for the extensive listing of relevant facts/ideas/options; I did not, however, see an appropriate goal with reasoning attached. Re: 2017 Lehigh University Commencement address: "Do something good." Is removing a monument good? Is labeling someone a racist (defined earlier than 1944 but much later than c. 1500) doing good? Do good, support St. Labre.

Bob