

We say NO to CHIEF ILLINIWEK!

The University of Illinois uses a mascot which is brought to "life" by a student during the University's sports games. Name of the mascot: Chief Illiniwek. Description: a white student disguised as an American Indian, complete with a full eagle-feather headdress and colored lines on his cheeks (alleged war paint). Before, during and after the game, the white "Chief" jumps around at the great consternation of numerous American Indian students and professors. Today, quite a great number of white, Afro-American and other students and professors have joined the anti-Chief movement.

Chief Illiniwek is a grave insult to the indigenous people. It is a clear expression of sheer ignorance about the life, cultures and religious beliefs of human beings of real flesh and blood. American Indians are no characters from a comic book, nor from an old Hollywood western movie.

For 505 years now the Indigenous People of the Americas have been suffering from the European and Euro-american arrogance. They have been exploited, abused and humiliated in chronologic order in the name of God, gold, land, coal, uranium, and today also for the misplaced humor of sports teams and universities.

Would the University agree using a Jewish survivor of the concentration camps as a mascot? Or a Tibetan lama? Or a Croatia woman who was raped during the war that splintered Yugoslavia? These are all equal examples of brave and proud human beings who are victims of racist practices and genocide...

That would be exaggerated according to the Univ of Illinois. But American Indians who are still suffering from genocide, racism and other humiliations on the other hand are "fit" as mascots?!

Chief Illiniwek is a humiliating, degrading and racist symbol. The University does not change it despite the protests of thousands of people. Chief Illiniwek is not politically, nor socially, nor culturally, nor religiously correct or acceptable. Only by outside pressure the University will be forced to change the mascot.

We say **NO to CHIEF ILLINIWEK!**

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Send signed petitions back to:
K.O.L.A. International Office
Van Boeckel St. 20
B-1140 Brussels
Belgium



or contact: kolahq@skynet.be; bluewind@indianie.eco.pl
<http://users.skynet.be/kola/index.htm> <http://www.indianie.eco.pl>

Podpisane petycje możesz przesłać do: **KOLA International – Poland**; ul. Obozowa 61 m. 38; 01-418 Warszawa