Abstract

When Europeans first arrived on this continent, they were surprised to find a race of people already living here. Since that time, relationships between Euro-american governments and tribal leaders have been a complex tapestry with varying balances of power. This project will give a brief overview of the history of these relationships, but its main purpose is to inform the general public about the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 and its continuing importance to Native American tribes. Repatriation is a complicated process, and the United States government has a troubling history of ignoring native voices in matters regarding native peoples. The goal of this project is to emphasize the importance of native voices in deciding what to do with native remains and how to teach about native cultures.

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