

The Meaning of Monument – Statue of Theodore Roosevelt: Questions to think:

Go through the following statements from the documentary, either visitors or specialists, think about it and decide which of these (you can decide for more) opinions is/are closest to yours. You can choose more than only one.

- I think statues should be where they are.
- Should this be on a main street? Should this be in front of a museum? No, I would put a dinosaur over here. Something, anything else but this.
- I'd leave it up for sure.
- They're still a part of history. I don't believe they should be destroyed but I definitely think they should be taken down.
- Leave it as it is and let it represent the time that it was made and we know better now.
- I think I would move it inside the museum and put something else here.
- I don't know if it necessarily needs to be taken down, because if we take it down, then we erase what happened. And we cannot really erase what happened, we've just gotta like be able to move forward.
- I voted to remove the statue. I thought it should be removed elsewhere on grounds, not be removed entirely, but moved elsewhere and then contextualized.
- I, personally, would be opposed to removing things. I think it's better to expand the people that are being honoured in our public spaces.
- I would remove it from public view.
- I think it would be a long overdue act of racial healing in this city. I don't think it deserves to really occupy that prominent position any longer.
- I am not inclined to tear things down because I really sincerely believe it erases history and history is hard and unpleasant. But we need to talk about it.
- I think it's wonderful that there is a conversation about what we're seeing because there are so many different views now. And I think the conversation can change because of education and what we hope for in the future. So I mean that's the power of sculpture, says the sculptor.
- Museums should not simplify stories, we should complicate them. Teddy Roosevelt deserves to be memorialized for his contributions to conservation. We should also acknowledge his race politics. These were complicated figures.

Try to find out interesting facts about Theodore Roosevelt:

- Why is there connection between the 26th American president, Theodore Roosevelt and a plush toy, Teddy Bear?
- Is there any relation between Theodore Roosevelt and another American president, Franklin Delano Roosevelt (who we might know better because he was the American president during the Second World War)?
- Is there any connection between Theodore Roosevelt and former Czechoslovakia?