



Athletes For Impact  
Revolve Impact  
1461 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90033

July 7, 2020

Dear NFL and the Washington Football Team -

We are living in an unprecedented moment of solidarity, and people across the country have come together to take a stand against racism in any form. In the past few weeks, major steps have been taken to remove racist mascots and imagery. Brands like Aunt Jemima and Uncle Ben's have been removed and NASCAR has banned Confederate flags. Monuments of Confederate soldiers, Christopher Columbus, and slave traders are being toppled in cities around the world.

**The fight to end the use of racist mascots, imagery, and names is next.**

As athletes, we know sports have power and we exercise tremendous influence and can inspire people of all ages. As an intersectional collective of athletes representing a range of races, genders, sports and religions who are actively involved in movements for justice, we ask that you immediately end the use of Native mascots in the NFL.

This has been a decades long fight with scientific studies proving that Native mascots have direct negative effects on Native Americans and they activate, reflect, and/or reinforce stereotyping and prejudice among non-Native people. It is not and has never been an honor to use this imagery in sports.

If the NFL wants to offer more than empty platitudes in service of profits, then we ask that you immediately ban the use of Native mascots, team names, insensitive gestures and the subsequent racist behavior of fans – starting with removing the Washington R\*dsk\*ns mascot and name.

**Only changing the name is not enough.** As long as all Native mascots continue to be allowed in the National Football League, any actions taken to end systemic racism will fall short. It cannot stand. We call on athletes, coaches, announcers, reporters, and fans to stand with us as we call on the NFL to change the name of the Washington football team.

**Racism is racism.**

Athletes for Impact

Scout Bassett, Paralympian  
Notah Begay III, Native American Athlete  
Lindsey Napela Berg, Olympian  
Benjamin Bratton, Olympian  
Dominique Byrd, Former NFL Player



**ATHLETES  
FOR  
IMPACT**

**Athletes For Impact  
Revolve Impact  
1461 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90033**

Layshia Clarendon, WNBA  
Claire Donyanavard, UCLA Softball's Director of Operations  
Rosalie Fish, Indigenous Track Athlete  
Ashleigh Johnson, Olympian  
Cam Jordan, NFL  
Gwen Jorgensen, Olympian  
Eric Kendricks, NFL  
Hilary Knight, Olympian  
Kyle Korver, NBA  
Shiloh LeBeau, Native American Amateur Boxer  
Simone Manuel, Olympian  
Alexander Mattison, NFL  
Ibtihaj Muhammad, Olympian  
Chris Mosier, Olympian  
Erica Ogwumike, 2020 WNBA Draftee  
Kelsey Plum, WNBA  
Megan Rapinoe, World Cup Champion  
April Ross, Olympian  
Karlise Samuelson, WNBA  
Katie Lou Samuelson, WNBA  
Lauren Schad, Professional Volleyball Player  
Danielle Scott, Olympian  
Shaq Thompson, NFL  
Penny Taylor, WNBA  
Chris Vincent, Former NFL Player  
Gabby Williams, WNBA  
Tarah Wylie, Professional Volleyball Player