

July 8, 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 days we have seen Nike and Walmart remove all Washington Football team gear from their website and yesterday FedEx, the Washington Football team sponsor, asked you to remove the mascot!

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

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.

Only changing the name is not enough. As artists and entertainers, we ask that you immediately end the use of Native mascots, team names, insensitive gestures and the subsequent racist behavior of fans – starting with removing the Washington R\*dk\*ns mascot and name. 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.

**Racism is racism.**

Lauren Ambrose, Actress  
Katie Aselton, Actor, Director/Producer  
Ceci Bastida, Musician  
Alison Becker, Actress  
Coby Brown, Musician  
Dan Bucatinsky, Actor/Writer/Producer  
Liz Cackowski, Actress/Writer  
Minnie Driver, Actress/Singer-Songwriter  
Josh Elliott, Television Journalist  
MaryElizabeth Ellis, Actress/Writer  
Liz Flahive, Playwright/Producer/Writer  
Brandon Flynn, Actor (13 Reasons Why)  
Dawn-Lyen Gardner, Actor (Ava DuVernay's Queen Sugar)  
Kaia Gerber, Actor/Model  
Jon Gordon, Author  
Diane Guerrero, Actor (Orange is the New Black and Doom Patrol)  
Sam Handel, Director  
Chelsea Handler, Actor/Comedian/Writer/Producer  
Colin Hanks, Actor/Director  
Kate Hart, Author  
Shantira Jackson, Actor/Writer  
Gillian Jacobs, Actress  
Jewel, Singer-Songwriter  
Sarah Jones, Writer/Performer

Miranda July, Director  
Jenni Konner, Writer/Producer/Director  
Heidi Lindelof, Advocate  
M1, Musician (dead prez)  
Catherine MaCord, Actress/Television Host  
David Mandel, Executive Producer  
Matt McGorry, Actor/Activist (How To Get Away With Murder and Orange is the New Black)  
Sarah McHale, Actress  
Lauren Miller, Actress  
Mystic, Musician  
Ahna O'Reilly, Actress  
Kelly Oxford, Writer/Director  
SuChin Pak, Correspondent/Writer  
Jamie Patricof, Producer  
Busy Philipps, Writer/Actor/Activist  
Rain Phoenix, Singer-Songwriter  
Retta, Comedian, Actress  
Mark Ruffalo, Actor/Director/Producer  
Kendrick Sampson, Actor, Co-Founder, BLD PWR  
Kelly Sawyer, Model  
Alexis Simpson, Actress/Director  
Karla Souza, Actor (How To Get Away With Murder and Amazon Prime's El Presidente)  
Kylie Sparks, Actor  
Chris Storer, Producer/Director/Writer  
Chamberlain Staub, Filmmaker  
Amirh Vann, Actress/Musician  
Milana Vayntrub, Actor/Comedian  
Kulap Vilaysack, Actress/Comedian/Writer  
Jasiri X, Musician, Executive Director of 1Hood Media  
Taika Waititi, Writer/Director/Actor