



STUDY GUIDE

A PROGRESSIVE'S GUIDE TO POLITICAL CORRECTNESS

KEY TERMS: indignant offended progressives
 stereotype sensitivity

NOTE-TAKING COLUMN: Complete this section <u>during</u> the video. Include definitions and key terms.	CUE COLUMN: Complete this section <u>after</u> the video.
<p data-bbox="99 552 690 583">What competition is going on in the nation?</p> <p data-bbox="99 1010 886 1077">Why should progressives be indignant and outraged at the name 'San Francisco' for a city name?</p> <p data-bbox="99 1503 891 1612">What is the problem with 'progressive sensitivity enforcers' who 'constantly find reason to take offense' and who are rarely happy?</p>	<p data-bbox="943 552 1521 583">Why are progressives so easily offended?</p> <p data-bbox="943 1199 1521 1308">What kind of a world does Mr. Will humorously suggest progressives work towards?</p>

DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- Mr. Will begins the video by rhetorically asking, “How indignant can progressives make themselves?” What is the underlying issue that Mr. Will is pointing out about progressives?
- Mr. Will observes that progressives are, “...competing to see who can most flamboyantly claim to be offended...To proclaim that their feelings have been hurt... or that their sensitivities have been rubbed raw... or their serenity disturbed... or their composure discombobulated... by something that someone has said... or by something they have seen.” What is so terrible about being offended once in a while? Why do you think that progressives seem to think that they have some sort of inherent and entitled ‘right’ to not be offended or disturbed by anything that they see or hear?
- Later in the video, Mr. Will humorously suggests that, “...we could give these places names that give no offense because they have no meaning.” Where do you think that this ‘right not to be offended’ mentality comes from? How does this ‘right not to be offended’ idea relate to the general progressive principle of valuing full and complete equality in every aspect of being?
- What is so absurd about the unrealistic and unobtainable utopia that progressives claim to wish for? Do you think it is possible to create a world where no one is offended? Why or why not? Should there be a world where no one is ever offended? Explain.
- At the end of the video, Mr. Will laments that, “...you should feel sorry for the progressive sensitivity enforcers. Those who constantly find reason to take offense are rarely happy people.” Even in a hyper-sanitized world, do you think that these fragile progressives could ever be happy and satisfied? Why or why not?

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: Corner Canyon High School

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article “School scraps ‘Cougars’ as mascot after complaints that it’s derogatory,” then answer the questions that follow.

- Who found the term ‘cougar’ offensive? Who, exactly, do you think some people might claim the term to be offensive to and in what way? Do you think that most women who consider themselves ‘cougars’ would actually be offended at high school sports teams using the term, especially if the graphics and school logo clearly depicted a mountain lion? What could possibly be offensive about the sports teams using the term even if it was intended to represent those older women? Wouldn’t it be an honor and positive acknowledgement and affirmation of their category of person? Why or why not?
- Why do you think some parents claimed to take offense at the name? Do you think that they really did or do you think that they simply wished to cause an issue and assert their collective power? Does the fact that the school board and principal so easily placated the parents who called over such a clearly ridiculous claim alarm you? Why or why not? What does the fact that the school appeased the parents and thus validated the absurd overreach of political correctness truly reflect about the current culture in that area and in America?
- If the school had gone ahead with the cougar mascot, what percentage of those parents do you guess would have genuinely been hurt and offended? What would you have told those parents if you were the principal? Should the school have let itself be bullied by the progressives? Why or why not? How much power do you think the progressive movement has over the majority, and how much power do you think they should have over the country and the world? How far do you think that the progressives are going to be allowed to go in terms of forcing their politically correct agenda on the majority? Explain.



QUIZ

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1. The word “Oklahoma” is a compound of what two words from the Choctaw language?
 - a. “corn” and “wheat”
 - b. “red” and “skins”
 - c. “red” and “people”
 - d. “oak” and “home”

2. Which of the following presidents should progressives be offended by?
 - a. George Washington
 - b. Thomas Jefferson
 - c. Andrew Jackson
 - d. All of the above.

3. Those who constantly find reason to take offense are _____.
 - a. really happy people
 - b. rarely happy people
 - c. generally unemployed
 - d. often rich

4. Which city is the Vatican of American progressivism?
 - a. St. Louis
 - b. San Diego
 - c. San Francisco
 - d. San Antonio

5. What is Professor Joseph Knippenberg’s suggestion to spare progressives from discomfort?
 - a. Name cities and buildings like car models.
 - b. Have all progressives live together in safe spaces.
 - c. Ensure offensive speech is clearly labeled as such.
 - d. Do not change the name of the Washington Redskins football team.



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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<http://news.blogs.cnn.com/2012/01/19/school-scrap-cougars-as-mascot-after-complaints-of-it-being-derogatory/>



Students chose the cougar as their mascot, but some parents complained about the term's use in regard to women.

January 19th, 2012
02:31 PM ET

[School scraps 'Cougars' as mascot after complaints that it's derogatory](#)

It's tough to pick a mascot these days.

Over the past few years we've seen several instances of schools being pressured to change their mascots because of cultural sensitivities like Miami University of Ohio having to go through a [25-year process to change from the Redskins to the Redhawks](#).

But we've never heard of a mascot that offended, well, older women.

The Corner Canyon High School in Draper, Utah, needed to choose a mascot and after 23% of students who voted decided they wanted to be the Corner Canyon Cougars. Falcons, Raptors and Diamondbacks were the other choices on the ballot.

But that didn't sit well with parents who called in and complained that "Cougar" was a derogatory word because of how it's made its way into our vocabulary for older women who like to date younger men.

"We have received numerous e-mail messages and phone calls from parents and patrons in Draper asking us to reconsider the inclusion of 'Cougars' as a mascot option," David S. Doty, superintendent of the Canyons School District, wrote in a memo to the Board of Education. "Opposition to the 'Cougars' focuses on a concern that the mascot, combined with the school's blue/white/silver color scheme, will be too similar to Brigham Young University. Many also have commented on the negative double entendre of the word 'cougar.'"

A cougar mascot doesn't seem to present a problem at well-known Brigham Young, in Provo, where 19 varsity teams, including 10 women's teams, compete under the Cougar nickname.

But down the road in Draper, the school board scrapped "Cougars" from the list of mascots and settled on the Chargers.

Maybe in Draper the ABC sitcom "Cougar Town," starring Courtney Cox, didn't go over real well.

For reference, because we know you were curious, we dug up a few statistics for you.

According to the 2010 census:

- Draper, Utah has a total population of 42,274 people.
- There were 12,685 people age 35 to 54. The median age there is 30.7.
- There are 5,709 women ages 35-54.
- Median age for women is 30.1. Median age for men is 31.2

And according to the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources:

- There are roughly 3,000 total mountain lions in the state of Utah "plus or minus 1,000."
- But it's tough to get a true estimate. "The elusive nature of the big cats, compounded by their penchant for nocturnal activities, makes them difficult to count," Kevin Bunnell, mammals coordinator for the DWR, [told the Salt Lake Tribune](#).

While no doubt everyone has their own view on the matter of picking mascots and what is politically correct, it seems like the list of things you can't call your team continues to grow.

And you never know, this story may not be over yet. "Chargers" may be deemed offensive to people who are up to their necks in credit-card debt.