

A Privileged View of History

People, upon reflecting on American history, lament the way the U.S. treated the American Indians. Eventually seizing most of their land through treaty and conflict.

I'm not quite sure how to articulate it, but it feels wrong to condemn what ultimately led to us existing where we are now. To some extent, I think we need to feel a sense of inevitability, that our way of life needed to triumph, and they were simply in the way of that victory, like it or not.

I think the only way to be truly supportive of our country and of our way of life is to not necessarily justify, but understand that men in history have made tough decisions because they were in dire situations that we will never be subjected to BECAUSE of their actions.

Would we do any different in the settler's shoes? We in the U.S. lead lives of extravagant wealth in comparison- and so it's only through intense privilege that we look down at them from our ivory towers, whose foundations lay upon their work, is constructed with the immense wealth of the conquest, and is protected from any similar form of struggle.

We don't have to deal with American Indians raiding our towns and killing people. Why? Because the men who came before us dealt with them first. So, who's truly evil? The men of action, or the privileged who judge them?