

#NoMoreStolenAncestors

The #NoMoreStolenAncestors campaign was started by the Seminole Tribe of Florida in 2020 to address some of the inequities in repatriation.

#NoMoreStolenAncestors is a way for Tribes and their allies to advocate for fair and transparent repatriation law and seeks to give Federally recognized tribes a stronger voice in how their ancestors are treated. Until the dialogue shifts to acknowledge and repair this cultural harm, Native Americans will always be at a disadvantage in protecting their heritage.

Repatriation has historically been a one-sided process. Museums often lament the burden of NAGPRA compliance, which is typically not viewed as being shared with Tribes. Academia does not often consider the cultural burden of ripping ancestors from the ground, being forced to prove one's "Native-ness" to a legal standard, or finding a safe place for those stolen ancestors to rest in perpetuity. Until all Native remains are no longer treated as curiosities for study, cleared from museum shelves, and finally allowed to rest in their sacred burial grounds, #NoMoreStolenAncestors will continue.

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For more information on the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and repatriation law in Florida follow QR Code to www.fpan.us/educational-resources/nagpra/

