

**New York Times Shareholder Meeting Question  
Christopher Arps, Project 21 National Advisory Board Member  
National Center for Public Policy Research, April 22, 2020**

I'm Christopher Arps with Project 21, the black leadership network of the National Center for Public Policy Research.

The *New York Times* has invested significant resources in its 1619 Project, built upon the premise that everything in American history is irrevocably built on and tainted by slavery.<sup>1</sup> Many well-respected historians from a wide array of backgrounds have stepped forward to challenge the premises and factual assertions of the Project, particularly the claim that U.S. independence was motivated by a desire to break from an abolitionist Britain.<sup>2</sup> The *Times* has finally admitted its error.<sup>3</sup> Will it now go back to correct the record with the vigor with which it distorted it, and ensure that schools using 1619 Project materials<sup>4</sup> are not teaching falsehoods?

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/1619-america-slavery.html> (last accessed April 16, 2020).

<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., *Twelve Scholars Critique the 1619 Project and the New York Times Magazine Editor Responds*, HISTORY NEWS NETWORK (Jan. 26, 2020), available at <https://historynewsnetwork.org/article/174140> (last accessed April 16, 2020).

<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., Bryan Preston, *NYT Admits, at Last, That Its 1619 Project Is Wrong*, PJ MEDIA (March 14, 2020), available at <https://pjmedia.com/trending/nyt-admits-at-last-that-its-1619-project-is-wrong/> (last accessed April 16, 2020).

<sup>4</sup> See, e.g., Robby Soave, *Public Schools Are Teaching The 1619 Project in Class, Despite Concerns From Historians*, REASON (Jan. 28, 2020), available at <https://reason.com/2020/01/28/1619-project-new-york-times-public-schools/> (last accessed April 16, 2020).