

Clyde Bellecourt, founder of American Indian Movement, dies at 85

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Minneapolis, January 13 (RHC)-- Clyde Bellecourt, co-founder of the American Indian Movement, has died at the age of 85.

In 1972, the American Indian Movement organized a major march to D.C. called the Trail of Broken Treaties. Bellecourt was a prominent figure in the occupation of Wounded Knee on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota in 1973.

Several years ago, in 2013, Bellecourt spoke with "Democracy Now" about the campaign to force the Washington football team to change its racist name. Clyde Bellecourt said: "We're putting pressure on the whole world about these racist slurs and this continued cultural genocidal policies of this government. Let's not forget, there's over 2,000 high schools, colleges and universities throughout America have changed. They said they would never change, never change their name, just like Dan Snyder, but they have changed. Every single one of them has changed. And so will happen to this Washington team."

In 2020, the Washington NFL team finally retired its old name -- from "The Washington Red Skins."

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