

**Erasing atrocity from the record – Removing mention of impeachments, slavery, racism, oppression from exhibits and labels.**

...the hour brought not the blessing of survival but a storm of musket and howitzer, whose music was the tearing of flesh and the breaking of peace... thirteen Cheyenne peace chiefs fell there... the afternoon and the following day were given to desecration...

**Replacing history with “uplifting” national narrative – Framing museums as symbols of inspiration rather than truth.**

...the wind asks whether I will carry with me merely the weight of knowledge or the heavier, more transforming weight of guilt... a nation’s greatness is not measured by the height of its buildings or the reach of its armies, but by the depth of its memory.

**Political control of cultural institutions – Pressuring museum leaders to resign, dictating curatorial choices.**

The Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site preserves not a point on a map but a wound in the earth’s own body... you will remember me, or you will become me.

**Cosmetic sanitizing of monuments – Removing “disparaging” language, restoring Confederate statues, erasing transgender history.**

Sand Creek... is a mirror in which the face of civilisation is seen without its cosmetics... And silence, when it is willed, is complicity.

**Turning memorials into polite exhibits – Recasting confrontational history into something consumable and harmless.**

...I fear... Sand Creek might be absorbed into the polite museum of the national conscience, where it may be admired without being confronted.

**Cultivating national amnesia – Risking future generations’ ignorance by stripping away uncomfortable truths.**

Forgetting is the most fashionable crime of our age... Let this dry creek... be the unanswerable witness — the stone in the shoe of progress...