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What is Nationalism? Nationalism was the want to unify a country from separate states into one that believed the same and shared a collective culture. Nationalist movements will have people focus on things like a common culture and it is a cultural construct. These people share a common history, which is what creates a national identity. In Italy specifically nationalism was born out of the "sentiment for Italy's unification,"(Kovick, 2021). I will be focusing on nationalist movements in Italy. Traditional nationalism was defined as a shared pride that Italians had for their country, it was most commonly found in conservative political groups. The people of Italy wanted the unification of the states, because they were so drastically different in culture, laws, and language too. At the time before Napoleon's invasion in 1796 the country of Italy was nowhere close to being united. It was at the time separated into separate states that had different ideologies and no cultural construct. In the 1820s political activists believe that the want for unification in Italy was related to Austrias nationalist issues at the time. There was one important person that helped with the unification of the peninsula. Giuseppe Mazzini fought for the unification of nationalist sentiment (Kovick, 2021). There was one movement called Young Italy that was devoted to Italian nationalism fighting for unification. There was the idea to unify Italy on the concept of Romanità and governing it by the values of the Catholic Church. Nationalism, the unification of the peninsula, was achieved in Italy in 1861.

Works Cited

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