

Museum Visit Reflection 3

The documentary I watched is Episode 1 of the Latino American series on PBS. This video introduced how Native Americans' land was taken piece by piece and how they were treated under the ruthless invaders' brutality. Another aspect was how the culture and lifestyle changed after the arrival of Europeans.

Spanish conquistadors and priests invaded America 100 years after Columbus's arrival. Their purpose is to search for gold and spread Catholicism. In 1610, they established Santa Fe, New Mexico. British and Dutch settled in Plymouth and New Amsterdam. In 1682, the French arrived in Mississippi. Russians entered from Alaska into California. Most Indians decided to rebel. Those who disobey will be jailed, placed in stocks, or whipped. In early 1800, Americans moved westward, driven by the God-given right to move across the continent. After multiple wars between the defender of the homeland and invaders, many soldiers were deceased. The newcomers see the people who claimed the land for a long time as outsiders.

In Mexico's province of California, Californios could not hold on to their lands. Mariano Vallejo is a rancho owner. His rancho covers over 65000 acres and numerous live stocks. Then groups of Americans come to arrest Vallejo because they want to declare California as an independent republic. It is impossible to let Europeans work with Californios. Eventually, Vallejo signed the Articles of Capitulation. However, this is only a miniature of what is happening in the U.S. The U.S. army never stopped pushing the boundary westward, causing the death of many innocent native people. America brutally grabbed the rich natural resources from winning the Mexican

American war.

The information delivered in this video was shocking to me. It reminds me of the time when the Japanese invaded China. Invaders can do anything they want and sacrifice anyone to satisfy their ambition. To dominate or assimilate a new country, invaders must eliminate the culture, beliefs, and language of the locals. Opponents will either be killed or jailed. When the transformation process is complete, invaders will achieve a decisive victory.