

Summary

Should Boys and Girls Be Taught Separately?

About 400 co-ed public schools already offer some single-sex classes

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At Foley Intermediate School, in Foley, Alabama, an all-girls class of 4th-graders

YES There are many benefits to single-sex education, and we should make it more widely available.

Researchers have found that there are biological and developmental differences between boys and girls that affect how they learn. For example, in general, boys respond better to a teaching style that allows them to be more physically active in the classroom. Girls tend to be more cautious about participating in discussions.

For nine years, I've been studying the effectiveness of single-sex versus co-ed classrooms at a Florida elementary school. Single-sex classrooms have helped close the achievement gap between boys and girls. It's also changed attitudes: Girls in the single-sex class think science is fun, while girls in the co-ed class say they don't like science. In a recent survey,

87 percent of parents said being in single-sex classes increased their child's self-esteem and motivation.

Research shows that high school students in single-sex classrooms are more likely to take courses that run counter to gender stereotypes: Girls are more likely to study computer science and physics; boys are more likely to study art and drama. And they're more likely to excel at and stick with these subjects.

Research shows both boys and girls do better academically in single-sex classrooms.

In a recent survey of students in single-sex classes, 67 percent said it increased their self-esteem, and 72 percent reported a greater desire to learn and participate compared with their experience in co-ed classrooms.

For more than 100 years, some of the nation's finest private schools have experienced the benefits of single-sex education. It's time to make this choice broadly available in our public schools. •

—KATHY PIECHURA-COUTURE

Professor of Education, Stetson University, DeLand, Fla.

NO When it comes to learning, every student is different. Some kids are more outgoing than others. Some like to move around a lot, and others prefer to sit still. This is true whether you're a boy or a girl. That's why it doesn't make sense to put students into separate classes based on generalizations about boys and girls.

Many single-sex programs are based on the idea that differences between boys and girls are so great that they need to be taught differently. For example, some supporters of single-sex programs claim that girls perform poorly under stress and shouldn't be given timed tests, and that boys should be allowed to hit things with Nerf bats to relieve tension.

An article in the journal *Science* recently questioned these troubling theories and found no evidence that separating boys and girls improves academic performance. In fact, such programs often hurt students by repackaging harmful stereotypes as pseudo-scientific fact. There are obviously biological differences between boys and girls, but they simply don't translate into the need for separate classrooms or different teaching styles.

We all know kids who don't conform to gender stereotypes. School is where students should learn to work with kids who have different interests and strengths. Boys and girls need the chance to learn from each other too.

Making crude judgments about learning styles based only on gender limits opportunities for boys and girls alike. What students really need is an education that is tailored to their needs as individuals—in other words, an education that teaches kids, not stereotypes. •

Boys and girls are different, but they don't need separate classrooms or different teaching styles.

—GALEN SHERWIN

ACLU Women's Rights Project

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**PHONE TRACKING**

The government may be looking at what numbers you call.

**BODY SEARCHES**

Airline passengers go through body scanners or receive pat downs.

**SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS**

An increasing number of cameras record what we do in public.

Watching You

How much government surveillance should Americans accept to keep the nation safe from more terrorist attacks? BY PATRICIA SMITH

Since the deadly Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Americans have grown accustomed to increased security and government scrutiny in their daily lives: body scanners and shoe searches at airports, video surveillance cameras on many buildings and city streets, and more intrusive questions at border crossings.

But this spring's news that the U.S. government has been secretly collecting Americans' telephone records and tracking foreigners overseas on sites like Yahoo and Facebook has raised questions about how much privacy is worth sacrificing to keep the nation safe.

"You can't have 100 percent security and also then have 100 percent privacy and zero inconvenience," President Barack Obama said after the

phone and Web tracking programs were disclosed in June. "We're going to have to make some choices as a society."

Edward Snowden, a 30-year-old former contractor for the National Security Agency (N.S.A.), leaked details of the surveillance programs to the media, risking a long prison sentence for disclosing top-secret material.

"The public needs to decide whether these programs and policies are right or wrong," he said.

Under the phone surveillance program, begun in 2006 under President George W. Bush, the N.S.A. collects phone company records showing numbers called within

the U.S. and call durations; it does not listen in on calls. The Internet surveillance program, called Prism, started the following year; it involves eavesdropping on e-mails and online chats of foreigners overseas. The government obtained court orders to force companies like Google, Yahoo, and Facebook to turn over online communications from their databases.

President Obama calls the programs "modest encroachments on privacy" and says they are "worth us doing" to protect the country. The programs, he says, were authorized by Congress and are regularly reviewed by federal courts.

Information gathered under Prism has helped foil about 50 terrorist plots, according to N.S.A. director Keith Alexander. In 2009, an intercepted e-mail led authorities to arrest an

WATCH A VIDEO**Leakers:
Saints or Villains?**
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Al Qaeda operative in the U.S. who was plotting backpack bombings on the New York City subway.

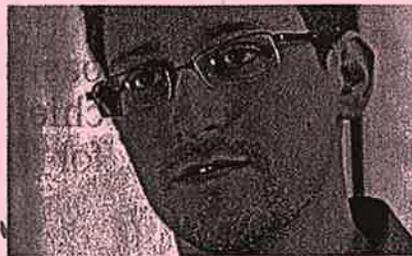
A Privacy Violation?

But some see such surveillance as a serious infringement on Americans' privacy. The idea of a right to privacy comes from the Constitution's Fourth Amendment, which protects against "unreasonable searches and seizures" (see box). It means, for instance, that the police need a court-issued warrant to search your home.

The American Civil Liberties Union (A.C.L.U.) has sued the Obama administration over its collection of domestic phone logs, contending that it violates the Fourth Amendment. In July, the Electronic Privacy Information Center, a privacy rights group, filed an emergency petition with the Supreme Court asking it to stop the N.S.A.'s domestic surveillance program, which it contends is illegal.

"This dragnet program is surely one of the largest surveillance efforts ever launched by a democratic government against its own citizens," says Jameel Jaffer of the A.C.L.U.

The N.S.A. programs are part of a larger trend. Security concerns since the 9/11 attacks and improved technology have led to increased monitoring of Americans. Cameras mounted on buildings watch for potential terrorists and criminals. Police in some cities wear small video cameras clipped to their uniforms to



Edward Snowden leaked the N.S.A. documents.

record their interactions with the public. Travelers submit to body scans at airports. Beyond that, with smartphones turning every situation into potential video fodder, Americans are pointing more and more cameras at one another. Some privacy advocates warn that the U.S. is becoming a "surveillance state."

"What we are actually witnessing is a sea change in the kinds of things that the government can monitor in the lives

of ordinary citizens," says James Rule a sociologist at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law.

But not everyone is alarmed. A poll conducted by the Pew Research Center in the days after the surveillance programs became public found that 53 percent of Americans found them justifiable.

"I'd rather have them track who we're talking to if it saves American lives," says Rob Johnson, 21, of Chicago. "I think it's OK for them to be that invasive."

Last April, Americans saw some of the benefits of living with increased surveillance. Within hours of the Boston Marathon bombings, which killed three and injured more than 250, authorities began sifting through a mountain of video footage—from government and private surveillance cameras and images shot by spectators on their phones. By the end of the week, the suspects had been identified and captured before they could harm anyone else.

Like many Americans, Anne Maguire, 20, a student at Harvard University, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, is torn about the phone and Internet snooping. "On one hand I think it's extremely invasive," she says. "Do I think it's necessary? That's where I'm kind of undecided."

"You have a right to privacy," Maguire says. "But at the same time, there are some crazy people in the world." •

With reporting by Charlie Savage, Claire Cain Miller, Adam Nagourney, David E. Sanger, and Eric Schmitt of The Times.

Knowing Your Privacy Rights

The right to privacy stems from the Fourth Amendment's prohibition against "unreasonable searches and seizures."

What the Fourth Amendment Covers

The police need a court-issued warrant to search your home. They need a warrant to listen in on the phone calls of suspected criminals. They need a warrant or probable cause to search your car.

What It Doesn't Cover

You don't have a right to privacy in public places. Once you step outside your home, you can be photographed—by surveillance cameras or by anyone with a smartphone—without any legal restrictions.

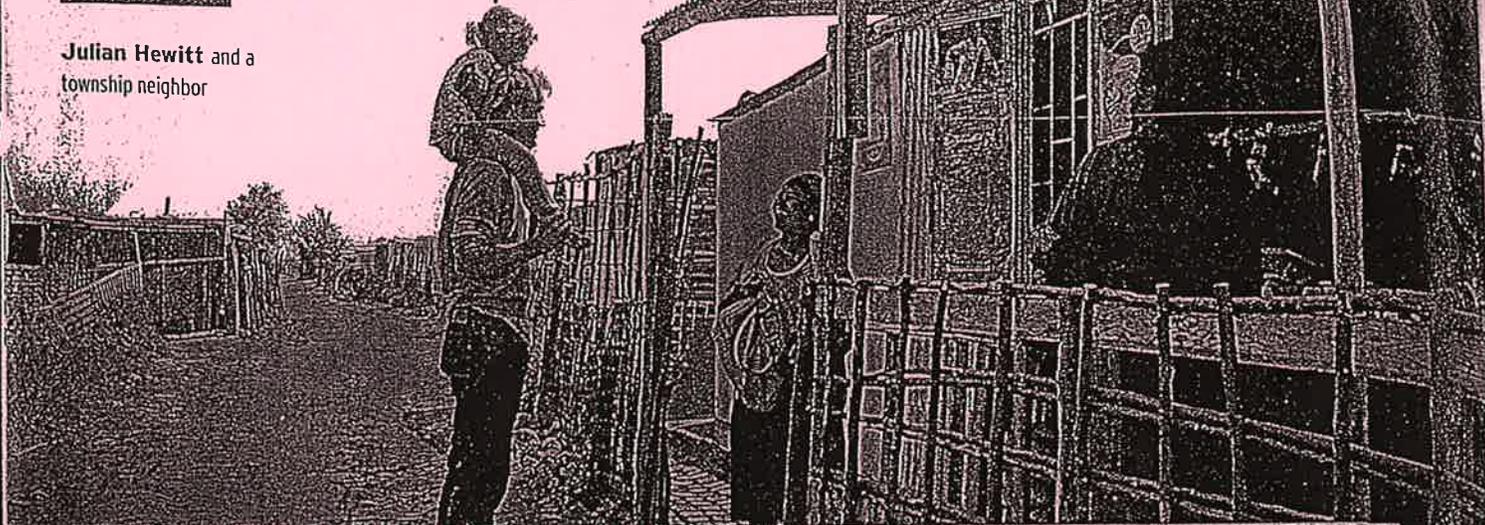
Does It Apply to Phone Surveillance?

An A.C.L.U. lawsuit contends that collecting Americans' phone records to look for terrorist threats is an invasion of privacy. The case could wind up before the Supreme Court.

FROM TOP: ENICK ANDERSON/WASHINGTON POST WRITERS GROUP/CARTOONIST GROUP; THE GUARDIAN/GETTY IMAGES; ISTOCKPHOTO.COM (BACKGROUND); FROM LEFT: TERRY VINE/BLEND IMAGES/GETTY IMAGES; ELAINE THOMPSON/AP PHOTO; WINDSOR & WIEHANN/THE IMAGE BANK/GETTY IMAGES

Julian Hewitt and a township neighbor

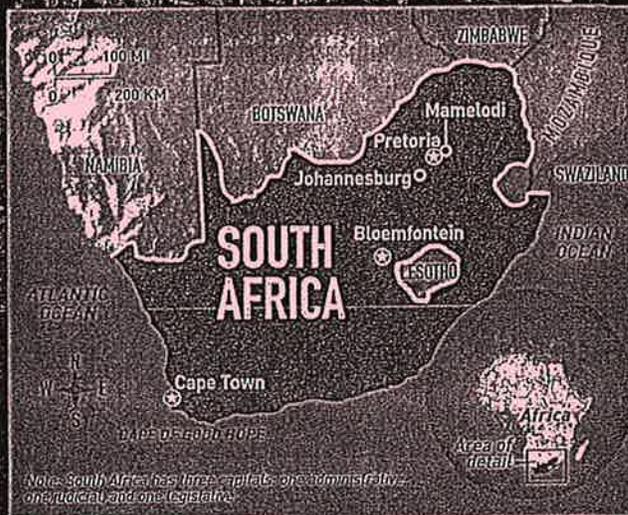
Summary



CROSSING THE RACIAL DIVIDE

When a white South African family moved into a black township, it stirred up a heated national debate

BY LYDIA POLGREEN IN MAMELODI, SOUTH AFRICA



Regina Matshega was gossiping with a neighbor one day in August when she spotted something very unexpected: two white South Africans, a man and a woman, with two blond toddlers running at their heels.

"I couldn't believe my eyes," Matshega says. "What are white people doing here?"

The white couple wandered over, past the gutter overflowing with raw sewage, to introduce themselves as Julian and Ena Hewitt. To experience what life was like in a black township, they had moved from their comfortable home outside Pretoria into a 100-square-foot shack with no electricity or running water.

"They said they wanted to see how we are living," Matshega says. "Can you imagine?"

The Hewitts spent the month of August living an experiment: Could a white middle-class South African family make it on \$10 a day in the kind of living conditions that millions of black South Africans endure every day?

"It is one thing to know from an academic perspective what divides us," says Julian Hewitt, who also blogged about

the experience. "But what is it like to actually live it?"

In South Africa, where deep racial divides remain at the core of the nation's identity 22 years after the end of apartheid, the Hewitts' experiment made headlines and spurred heated debate.

Apartheid was a government-run system of rigid racial segregation that was in place for much of the 20th century. In a nation that was then 70 percent black, a white minority ruled, denying blacks basic rights and essentially treating them as outsiders in their own land.

Apartheid officially ended in 1991, with Nelson Mandela elected as South Africa's first black president three years later. But apartheid's legacy of inequality persists.

Poverty, Crime & Unemployment

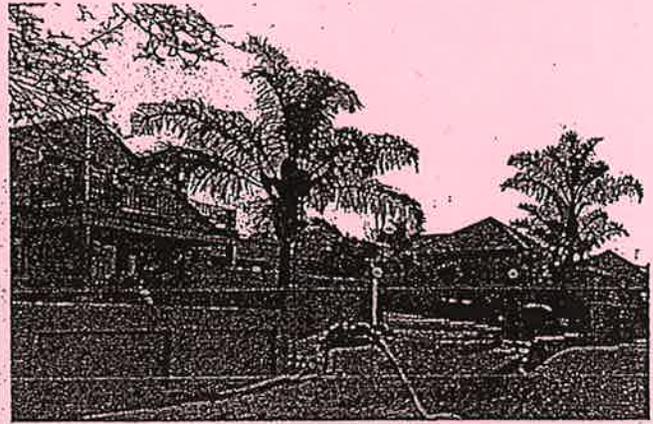
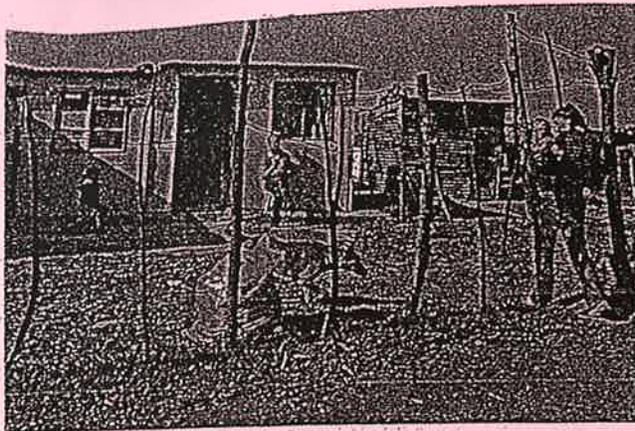
While South Africa has become a democracy and its economy is the envy of most of the continent, about half of South Africans still live in poverty, almost a quarter of its workforce is unemployed, and violent crime has soared.

Among the most stubborn legacies of apartheid are the geographic boundaries that separate the races in practice, if no

WATCH A VIDEO

Apartheid
in South Africa

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Two worlds: The Hewitts in front of their 100-square-foot shack in Mamelodi (left) and the suburban neighborhood where they live

longer by law. Remote, overcrowded townships like Mamelodi, where the Hewitts stayed, were once the only urban places blacks were permitted to live. Since apartheid ended, middle class blacks have moved into formerly white suburbs, but whites have generally not integrated black areas. Indeed, even poor whites have their own slums, far from blacks.

The Hewitts live in a gated suburban community, but for their month in Mamelodi, they took only the barest necessities that people in townships could afford: a few changes of clothes, a couple of pots, some blankets, and thin mattresses. With no running water, tepid bucket baths replaced hot showers. Instead of flushing toilets, they shared a pit latrine with their neighbors. Their two daughters had to leave their toys behind.

"Like so many people in South Africa, we live in a bubble," says Ena Hewitt. "We wanted to get outside that bubble."

But stepping outside the sharp lines that define South Africa can be a tricky business, the Hewitts soon learned. Some people applauded them for putting aside the comforts of their own lives to see how the other half lives.

"I think it's a wonderful thing," says Vusi Mahlasela, a prominent South African musician who also lives in Mamelodi. "We all need to understand each other better."

"Like so many people in South Africa, we live in a bubble."

But their experiment also prompted anger. Had they come to gawk at black poverty? Was this a publicity stunt aimed at getting a book or movie deal, or a reality TV show? Some critics took to Twitter with outright nasty, even violent responses. "You know what? Hope the paraffin stove falls over and you people burn in that shack. Bye!" tweeted one person.

'Doing It to Change Ourselves'

Asked why his family decided to move to a shack rather than building a school or a playground in a township, Julian Hewitt replies: "It's very simple. We're doing it for ourselves. We're doing it to change ourselves."

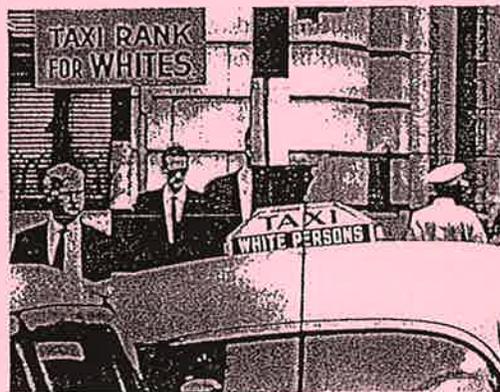
His parents were horrified that he brought their young granddaughters to live in a township. But the couple insisted that their children should learn to cross South Africa's ever-present boundaries of race and class.

"People might say it is irresponsible to bring children," Julian Hewitt says. "But I would rather say it is irresponsible to raise children in this country who can't cross boundaries."

Life in a shack was not easy for the Hewitts. August is the coldest month of South Africa's winter, and keeping warm in an uninsulated, thin-walled structure was impossible. They all slept on a pile of mattresses on the floor, fully clothed in multiple layers. Even so, in the first week the entire family had the flu. Commuting using the local transportation that most poor people rely on ate up almost half of the family's \$300 budget for the month.

Despite the hardships, the Hewitts say they will miss many aspects of their time in the township.

"There is a real sense of community, where people rely on each other and take care of each other," Ena Hewitt says. "That is something that we don't have enough of back home." •



The life and death of apartheid: South Africa in 1967; Nelson Mandela campaigning for president in 1994 (right).

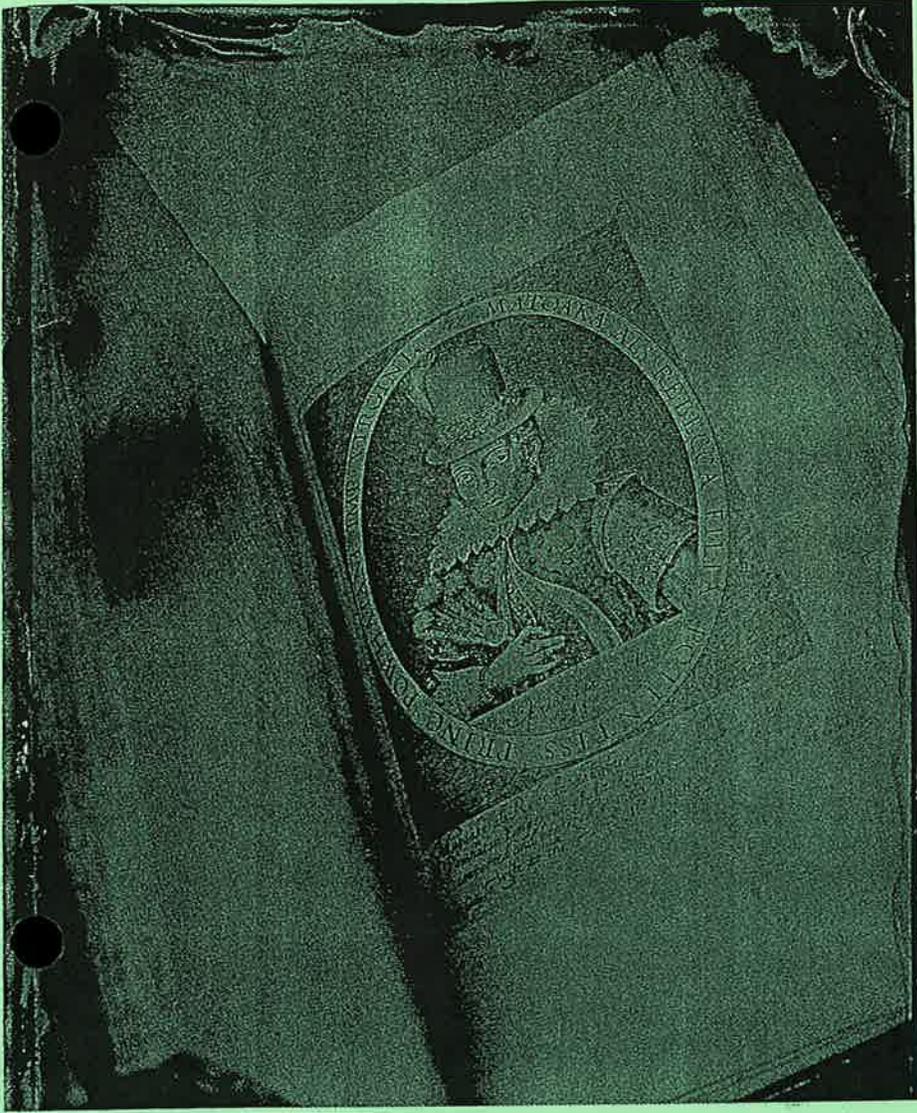
Lydia Polgreen is the Johannesburg bureau chief for *The New York Times*.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CANDACE FEIT FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES; GOOGLE MAPS; PER-ANDERS PETERSSON/HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES; ROLLS PRESS/POPPERFOTO/GETTY IMAGES

CANDACE FEIT/THE NEW YORK TIMES/REXUS

JOSH

by Tony Horwitz



during her visit to London in 1616, the engraving depicts a stylish lady in beaver hat and embroidered velvet mantle, clutching an ostrich feather fan. Only her high cheekbones and almond-shaped eyes hint at her origins far from London. The inscription is also striking; it identifies her not as Pocahontas, but as "Matoaka" and "Rebecca." In short, there seems little to link this peculiar figure, peering from above a starched white ruff, with the buck-skinned Indian maiden of American lore. So which image is closer to the woman we know as Pocahontas?

She was born Matoaka, in the mid-1590s, the daughter of Powhatan, who ruled a native empire in what is now eastern Virginia. Powhatan had dozens of children, and power in his culture passed between males. But she did attract special notice for her beauty and liveliness; hence Pocahontas, a nickname meaning, roughly, "playful one." This was also the name she was known by to the English who settled near her home in 1607. John Smith, an early leader in Jamestown, described her as beautiful in "feature, countenance, and proportion" and filled with "wit and spirit."

But contrary to her depiction in films by Disney and others, Pocahontas wasn't a busty teenager when the English encountered her. Smith called her "A child of ten years old," while another colonist described her as a "young girle," cartwheeling naked through Jamestown. There is no evidence of romance between her and Smith (a lifelong bachelor, who, to judge from his own portrait, was far from handsome). Nor is there a firm basis for the tale of Pocahontas saving the English captain from execution by flinging her body across his. The only source for this story is Smith, who exaggerated many of his exploits and didn't mention his rescue by Poca- CONTINUED ON PAGE 116

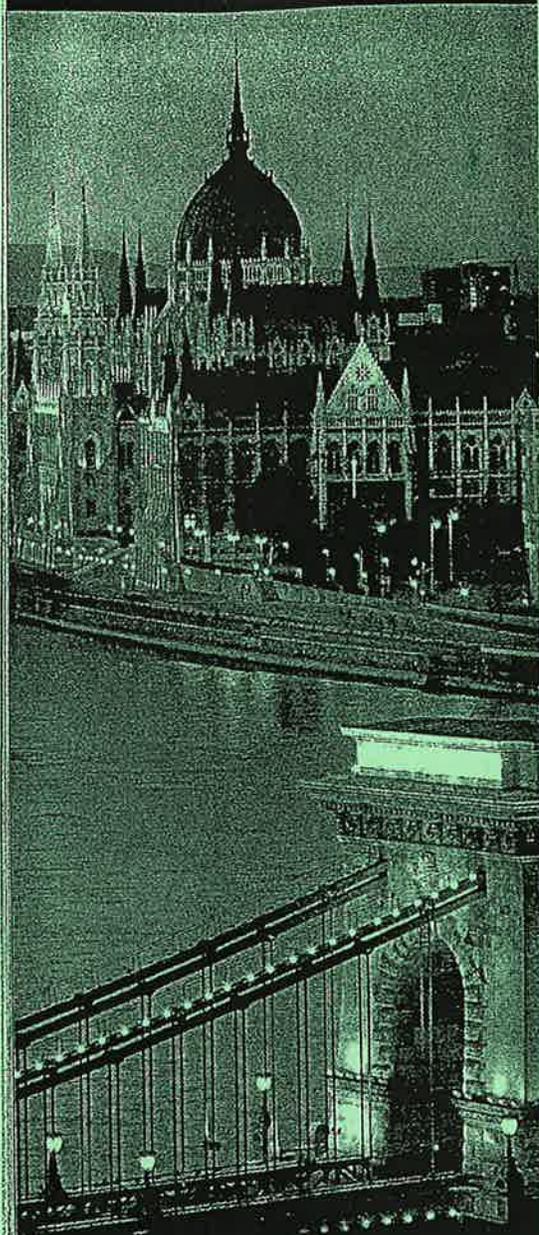
POCAHONTAS ENGRAVING

1616 • **Portrait Gallery**
The Indian princess saved Jamestown colony—and spawned fairy tales

Pocahontas is the most myth-encrusted figure in early America, a romantic "princess" who saves John Smith and the struggling Jamestown colony. But this fairy tale, familiar to millions today from storybook and film, bears little resemblance to the

extraordinary young woman who crossed cultures and oceans in her brief and ultimately tragic life. The startling artwork (above), the oldest in the National Portrait Gallery collection, is the only image of Pocahontas taken from life. Made

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This easy to read, essential book is a welcome addition to the information presently being offered as fact. There weren't any "water from gas" formation theories until now and scientists admit they haven't a clue as to how water formed. The AP Theory is the only theory which satisfactorily describes exactly when and how hydrogen and oxygen gases became water and where and how the heat and pressure necessary to forge the gases into water (H₂O) originated. The AP Theory turns the astronomy community on its ear by presenting questions which severely cloud the creditability of the accretion (theory) process and by presenting compelling evidence, to discredit the "gravitationally held (gas) atmosphere" theory. Internationally acclaimed for its controversial, courageous and "bold truth" statements this one of a kind, watershed book advances cosmology and science to a new level of enlightenment by using the latest scientific discoveries to help prove its position. The AP Theory supersedes the present texts and library reference books.

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Pocahontas

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 91

hontas until 17 years after it allegedly occurred.

She did, however, help save Jamestown from starvation and Indian attack. She brought the colonists food, acted as an intermediary and warned the English of an impending ambush by her father. Smith lauded Pocahontas for this aid and gave her trinkets, but a few years later, the English kidnapped her and demanded a ransom of corn and captives held by Powhatan. When Powhatan failed to satisfy the English, his now-teenaged daughter stayed with the colonists. Whether she did so by choice isn't clear, since all that's known of her words and thoughts come from accounts by the English.

One of them was John Rolfe, a widowed settler and pioneer planter of a new strain of tobacco. He was besotted by Pocahontas and wrote that she showed a "great appearance of love to me." In 1614 she was baptized Rebecca (after the biblical bride who carried "two nations . . . in thy womb") and wed Rolfe, with both natives and colonists present. Jamestown flourished thanks to Rolfe's tobacco, and his marriage brought a short-lived peace to Virginia.

It also provided an opportunity for the colony's stockholders to tout their success in planting a cash crop and "civilizing" heathen natives. And so, in 1616, the Rolfes and their infant son sailed for London on a marketing trip sponsored by the Virginia Company. Pocahontas attended balls and plays, impressing the English with her manners and appearance, and sat for her portrait bedecked in courtly regalia. The copper-plate engraving, by the Dutch artist Simon van de Passe, was published in a volume devoted to English royalty. The inscription beneath her image makes clear the portrait's message: Matoaka, daughter of an Indian "Emperour," had been "converted and baptized," becoming Rebecca Rolfe, a respectable, thriving and thoroughly Anglicized lady.

But look closely at the portrait.

Central Idea, Supporting Details, and Objective Summary

Name: _____

Name of the article _____

Author of the article _____

Directions:

Part I: Read and Annotate the article; specifically annotate information that addresses the main idea and supporting details that develop the main idea.

Topic:

Main Idea:

Supporting Detail:

Supporting Detail:

Supporting Detail:

Prompt: Compose an objective summary of the article you read. Include a topic sentence, the central idea and at least two details as well as a concluding sentence.
