

create. Chloe, I like to see how passionate you are about this. From what you have told me about Cooley's story I think she is definitely someone the class should know about. So how about this. If you are all in agreement to switch your research topic to Chloe Cooley then I can loosen some of the resource requirements for the assignment. I like what you said about "creating Chloe's legacy". But you all need to be in agreement. It sounds like you will be taking on a bit more work so I am happy to move your presentation from the Friday to the after Monday to give you an extra weekend.

Chloe- That sounds good, thank you, sir!

Mr. Lee- Talk it over. I've got to check on another group but I will circle back. Alright?

Larissa- Oh we will.

Daniel reacts with a brown skinned thumbs up emoji.

Mr. Lee- Alright I'll be back.

They pause while Mr. Lee leaves the breakout room. A moment.

Chloe- Perfect! More time and now we can basically do whatever we want with the project.

Daniel- It's still a lot of work though...

Chloe- But we have a ton of time! And it will be much more interesting than reading about Simcoe's boring ass military achievements and political pursuits.

Larissa- I don't think they are boring.

Chloe- I was talking to Daniel.

START

Larissa- I am in this group too. I don't think JGS is boring. I chose to research him because I wanted to know more about him. I didn't know he fought in the American Revolutionary War and that he was present at the battle of Monmouth, fighting against Alexander Hamilton. I didn't know he was responsible for establishing the Constitution and legislative assemblies for Upper Canada and Lower Canada. I didn't know about Elizabeth Posthuma Simcoe, his wife, and her contribution to the history of colonial life in Canada through her journals and watercolour paintings. There is so much we **think** we know about John Graves Simcoe and that is what excited me when researching him.

I am interested in sharing his legacy. And sure we can complicate his legacy by incorporating with Chloe Cooley's story- STOP

Daniel- And the fact that he led a massacre of forty Indigenous people allied with the American Army for shits and giggles.

Larissa- Okay sure and that too... I don't want to spend more time trying to create Cooley's legacy, it isn't the point of the assignment and I can't take on the extra work.

Chloe- It wouldn't just be you taking on the work, Larissa. All of us will be contributing.

Larissa- Let's be real. We will probably end up doing most of the work.

Daniel- What is that supposed to mean?

Larissa- You are a wild card. We never know if you are going to do the work or not.

Daniel- Have I not provided bare facts on JGS?

Larissa- Yes but-

Daniel- Nah, nah nah, no buts. Did I not do the research?

Chloe- You did.

Daniel- Then why is she talking?

Larissa- You shared a few facts about JGS from Wikipedia, that is not research. We will likely have to go back and check it anyway. I'm not playing around with this project, Daniel. My grade is not a game. If it were up to me I wouldn't even be working with you.

Daniel-Then why are you? Cause I agreed to work with Chloe.

Larissa- No, Chloe and I agreed to work together and sir put you in our group because he wanted Chloe and I to keep you on task

Daniel- That's not true.

Larissa- Really Daniel? What, you think two of the top students in the class just chose you to be in our group because we thought you would be a good fit?

Larissa- Right. I get that. I really do. But I have to get an A, so...

Chloe- I want a good grade too. You think I am going to put together a half ass presentation on the only black woman we would be studying in class? Do you really think I after all that I have just said I would do that kind of disservice to Chloe and her legacy? Chloe means something to me. More than getting a good grade, impressing Mr. Lee, or getting into a stupid SHSM program. This is bigger than all of that. So no. You don't get it. But it's cool we will do JGS and we will get a dope mark and that will be that.

Larissa- Okay.

A message comes across the screen

"3 more minutes until the end of day. Break out rooms will remain open for 15 mins in case you are wrapping things up with your group."

Larissa- So I guess we will talk about presentation ideas tomorrow then.

Chloe- Fine.

Larissa- Okay.

Pause. Larissa hesitates to say anything else.

Larissa- Chloe?

Chloe- What?

START

Larissa- You said something before about my BLM posts on Instagram and I just- I dunno I just wanted to say, I do believe Black Lives Matter. I know Chloe Cooley's story is very much a part of that conversation And yes, it's a shame that we had to find out about Cooley by researching an old white man. I get all of that.... And yeah, I even get that my decision to stick with JGS is part of the reason why we never hear about people like Chloe. But that problem is with the education system, with Mr. Lee. It cannot be on us to fix it. So I'm sorry if I offended you. I really am... Just wanted to clear that up.

STOP

Chloe- Maybe it is on us to fix it. Or at least to challenge it. To be so loud and so disruptive that they have no choice but to listen and change. If we don't do it- if *I* don't do it, I never end up seeing anyone who looks like me in our history books. You will