

COLUMBUS AND PEDOPHILIA

Question: Was Columbus a pedophile?

Answer: The claims that Columbus was a pedophile come from the misinterpretation of a letter he wrote to Juana de Torres, a Spanish noblewoman who was a friend of Queen Isabella. The context of this letter reads as a complaint to De Torres regarding the conduct of other New World settlers, pointing out how lucrative human trade is and how greedy and reprehensible these settlers were for engaging in it.

What you should know:

- The common translation of the direct quote in question from the letter reads as follows: Now that so much gold is found, these people [the settlers] stop to consider whether they can obtain the greatest quantity of it by theft, or by going to the mines. For one woman they give a hundred castellanos, as for a farm; and this sort of trading is very common, and there are already a great number of merchants who go in search of girls; there are at this moment some nine or ten on sale; they fetch a good price, let their age be what it will.
- As seen above, the numbers nine to 10 were not the ages of the girls, but the number of the young women in the market. Columbus even goes on to say, “let their age be what it will,” meaning he did not know how old they were.
- In this letter, Columbus was complaining about a mob of Spanish mutineers who rebelled against him and usurped his authority. He was not applauding their actions but, rather, condemning them. He was not saying he was the one searching for girls to be sold as slaves, but that the mutineers were doing so. All these abuses toward the natives were against his orders and the wishes of the Queen of Spain.



- Neither sex slavery nor pedophilia, were mentioned by Columbus in this particular letter, proving that this charge against him is pure fiction. Columbus was removed from his office as governor by rebels and his political opponents, but he was immediately released when he arrived back in Spain precisely because he was innocent.
- After his return to Spain, Columbus' political rivals (Bobadilla and Roldan) were removed from their posts and their rebels were sentenced for mutiny.

SOURCES:

Christopher Columbus

The Hero: Defending Columbus From Modern Day Revisionism by Rafael Ortiz, Create Space, 2017.

Columbus Day vs Indigenous

Peoples' Day: The Truth Behind the Anti-Columbus Movement by Rafael Ortiz, Create Space, 2018.

Christopher Columbus and the Christian Church:

And Why He Matters to Believers Today by Rafael Ortiz, Create Space, 2019.

