**Dakota people and Scaffold**

Student Name

Institution Name

Course Name

Instructor Name

Date

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**Prepare by reading the following series of articles about the Dakota people and Scaffold, an artwork by Sam Durant, and respond to the following:**

**Consider how Durant was not censored, as some have claimed.**

While Sam Durant's artwork, Scaffold, has been subject to much controversy and criticism, it is essential to consider how Durant was not censored as some have claimed. Specifically, the artist had been invited to create the artwork. Though the installation was taken down after it decided to be part of the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, it was the artist's choice to take down the structure. Additionally, Durant had already shown the artwork in other locations and had not been censored anywhere else. This shows that his artwork was respected enough that it was allowed to be exhibited in multiple places.

**What do you think it means to “own your curatorial rigor by fearlessly talking to people”?**

Owning your curatorial rigor by fearlessly talking to people can be seen as a way to ensure that all perspectives are represented and that an honest dialogue about the artwork is created. It means being open to hearing multiple points of view and showing respect for different cultural experiences. This can be especially important when considering the artwork of a marginalized group, such as the Dakota people (Regan & Regan, 2017). By listening to their stories and engaging in thoughtful dialogue, one can better understand the impact and importance of Sam Durant's artwork, Scaffold.

**What lessons can we learn about speaking for another? What lessons can we learn about representing trauma?**

The stories of the Dakota and their experience with the Scaffold artwork shed light on the importance of understanding and representing trauma unique to a specific group of individuals. It also serves as an example of the consequences of speaking for a group without fully understanding their lived experience. This artwork serves as a reminder that although we may have good intentions, it is essential to consider the perspectives of people who have been marginalized and silenced (Steinhauer, 2017). We must also recognize how trauma can manifest itself differently and provide a safe space for individuals to discuss their experiences.

**What are your thoughts on the “resolution”?**

In reviewing the articles and considering Sam Durant's work, I agree with the proposed resolution related to the Dakota people. Though it may not be the perfect solution, it is better than continuing to ignore the issues the Dakota people have faced for generations. Furthermore, the artwork by Sam Durant serves as a reminder of how much work needs to be done to bridge these gaps and create a sense of harmony between cultures. I also think that Durant's work is a powerful tool for bringing awareness to the issues faced by Native Americans and promoting understanding between cultures and tribes.

**References**

Regan, S., & Regan, S. (2017, May 29). *After Protests from Native American Community, Walker Art Center Will Remove Public Sculpture*. Hyperallergic. <https://hyperallergic.com/382141/after-protests-from-native-american-community-walker-art-center-will-remove-public-sculpture/>

Steinhauer, J. (2017, June 7). *Sam Durant Doesn’t Need Defending*. Hyperallergic. <https://hyperallergic.com/383929/sam-durant-doesnt-need-defending/>