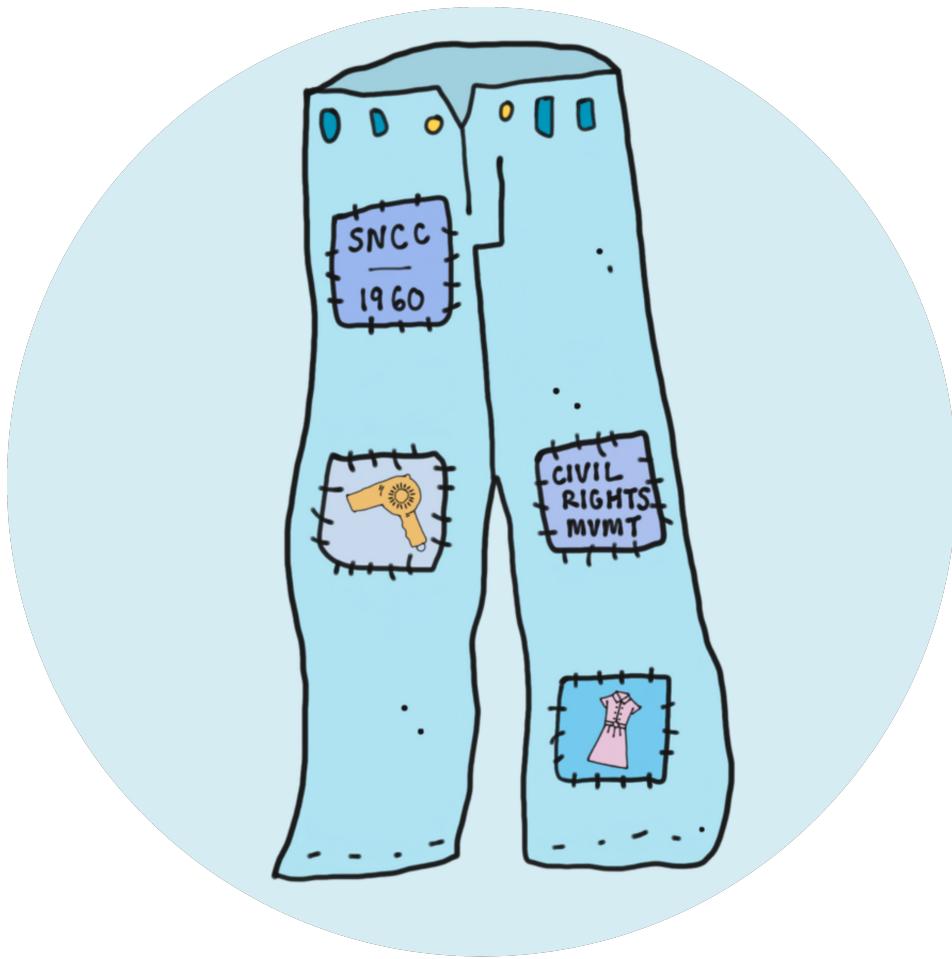




The Pussyhat Project, created in November 2016, developed a simple pattern for a pink knitted hat that quickly took over the internet. During the Women's March in 2017, a wave of pink Pussyhats covered the heads of crowds marching in spite of Donald Trump's presidential inauguration. The march was the largest single-day protest in U.S. history. The Pussyhat Project had the ability to bring millions of people together through a simple pattern, as many people knitted hats for their friends and neighbors, building a community of wearers. The pink hat became a symbol of strong women.

The Pussyhat Project was one of the first topics we learned about in class, and one that I found particularly inspiring. The knitted hat, the uniform of the movement, is easily recognizable, calling attention to the Pussyhat Project and the Women's March. The hat exemplifies the power of craftivism, as the design was posted online for widespread access, reaching a larger audience and allowing anyone to participate. By using this sticker, one acknowledges the Pussyhat Project and shows that they stand in solidarity with women. I chose to add our class's name to the hat—a nice end, returning to where we began.



During the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and 1960s, black women played a significant role fighting for the rights of African-Americans. However, they also experienced struggles in gaining respect, not only as African-Americans but also as women. To gain more respectability, when protesting they would wear their "Sunday Best" and spend hours to perfect their hair, only to be completely ruined by physical assault during protests. This trauma often resulted in the women returning to the salon to mend their hair, a vicious cycle that was broken when they adopted a uniform of denim. This uniform allowed them to connect with a wider audience, encouraging more people to participate. The denim upturned the idea of respectability, building a community amongst the SNCC soul sisters fighting for their own rights.

This sticker represents the denim that members of the SNCC soul sisters wore. The patches are vignettes of the elements that black women wore before they adopted the denim uniform, including a respectable "Sunday Best" dress, and a hair dryer for the constant maintenance that their hair required. The other two patches are small signals of the movement for onlookers to recognize. The patches on the jeans point to the idea of patching history—mending it to represent a true history of the great work that black women have done not only for the Civil Rights Movement but also for women's rights and more.



There remain 1,747 Confederate statues in America. Additionally, 103 public K-12 schools are named for Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis, or other Confederate icons. Struggling with this history, many are fighting to take down more of these statues and rename the schools. Earlier this year, light projection artist Dustin Klein began using his art to change the meaning behind these monuments, particularly the Robert E. Lee Monument, the only remaining Confederate statue on Richmond’s Monument Avenue. Projecting images representing the theme of Black empowerment, Klein has reclaimed the Robert E. Lee memorial. These projections, overlapped on the monument, work to re-contextualize the history of the Confederacy. The monument remains as a reminder of the deep American history, yet the projected images reclaim history for African-Americans.

This sticker represents one of Dustin Klein’s projections on the Robert E. Lee Monument. At the bottom, I have included the words “Reclaiming monuments. Reclaiming history,” along with the date to memorialize this important time in history. The statue of Lee on the horse remains shrouded in black, with no distinctive features to push the Confederacy into the shadows. Veins of red line the fist that is projected onto the memorial, indicating the energy that flows through protesters. The “BLM” projected onto the statue undermines Lee’s own power. Projections are not solid—they are transparent, revealing what is underneath, while adding another layer to re-contextualize and reclaim history.