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South Dakota police defend use of Confederate flag on patches

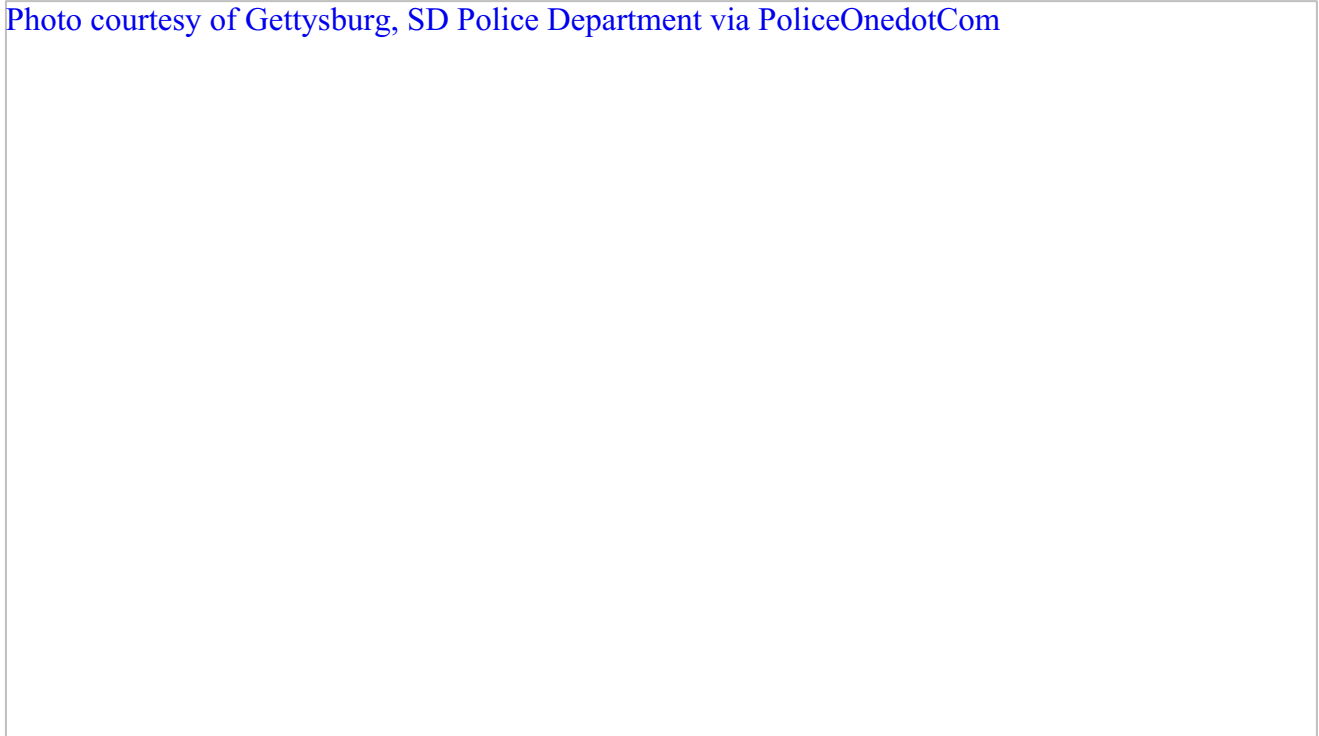
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by [Elias Alias](#) , [July 18, 2015](#)

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This article was published by [Keloland Television](#) on July 13, 2015. In a debate designed to erase our history, some hyper-sensitive and misguided souls feel that the Confederate Flag symbolizes slavery and the KKK, and that any display of that flag implies a vicarious support for such evils, while more open-minded Americans feel that the Confederate Flag symbolizes the perpetual conflict between State sovereignty and national sovereignty, a.k.a., “States’ Rights” as protected by the Ninth and Tenth Amendments. Now the juxtaposed perspectives are pitted against each other in a small town in South Dakota named “Gettysburg”. There are some interesting currents for readers who like to “*read between the lines*”.

[Photo courtesy of Gettysburg, SD Police Department via PoliceOnedotCom](#)



[Photo courtesy of Gettysburg, SD Police Department via OfficerDotCom](#)

A Confederate flag on police patches is at the center of a heated debate

Snippets from the article:

Hart says he isn’t angry with Gettysburg city leaders but doesn’t understand why they’d have a Confederate flag on a uniform worn by officers. As a person of color, he says it’s offensive to him.

“South Dakota doesn’t need that stuff in our state,” Hart said.

Patch designer Scott Barksdale, who has a background in law enforcement and history, worked with a former Gettysburg police chief to create the work in 2009. He says he chose the design to show unification as the Union and Confederate flags cross.

Both Confederate and Union soldiers, along with others, moved to Gettysburg and lived in the community together.

“Gettysburg was founded by Civil War veterans who came here after the war was over,” historian Corey Wannamaker said. “It was called the soldiers’ colony or the soldiers’ home and it was mostly just to attract other veterans to come out. Because it was founded by soldiers, that would make other soldiers comfortable to come out here.”

The complete article is here:

http://www.keloland.com/newsdetail.cfm/police-patch-with-confederate-flag-criticized/?id=182396&fb_action_ids=10200662907090657&fb_action_types=og.comments

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