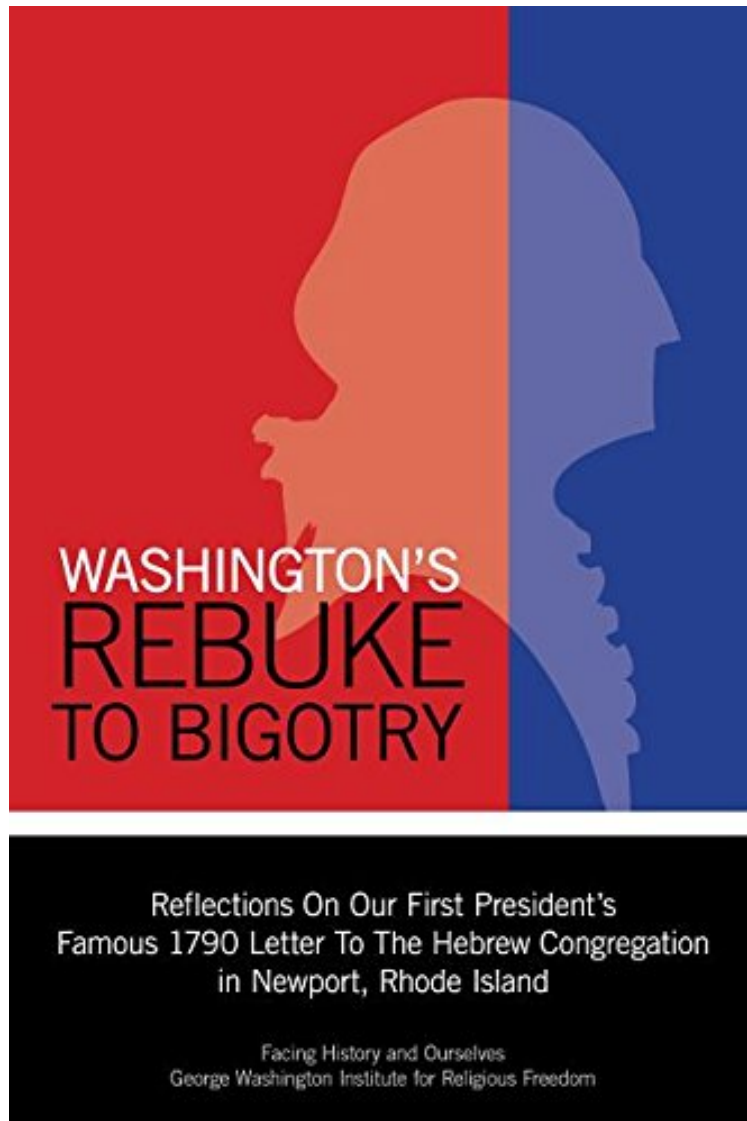


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## Washington's Rebuke to Bigotry: Reflections on Our First President's Famous 1790 Letter to the Hebrew Congregation In Newport, Rhode Island

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## Famous 1790 Letter to the Hebrew Congregation In Newport, Rhode Island:

George Washington's 1790 Letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, Rhode Island, a foundational document in the history of religious freedom in the United States, embodies a vision of religious harmony that remains deeply pertinent in our increasingly diverse society. In Washington's Rebuke to Bigotry, scholars from across the disciplines use the letter as a springboard to engage with important and timely questions regarding religious freedom, religious diversity, and civic identity. Washington's Rebuke to Bigotry introduces readers to the complexities of the historical moment in which Washington wrote the letter, when America's founding leaders were negotiating how the new democracy would approach religious difference. Many essays in this collection also bring the spirit of Washington's letter into the present, reflecting on contemporary issues such as gay rights in the United States, restrictions on religious practice in the public sphere in European countries, and the place of religion in education.

Washington's Rebuke to Bigotry represents some of the most eloquent voices on one of our most confounding challenges. The reflections on the Washington-Seixas letters will provoke citizens of all ages to think more imaginatively about the links between freedom of religious expression and deep democracy. (Diane L. Moore, Harvard Divinity School) Exceptionally well organized and presented . . . a critically important, impressively unique, and highly recommended contribution to the American History and American Political Science reference collections for community and academic libraries, and supplemental studies reading lists. (Midwest Book ) Solid, thought provoking scholarship that uses brevity as an effective and powerful teaching tool about the past but also about understanding ideas. This work would be worthwhile reading for early American history and even Enlightenment classes above the survey level. (Robert Davis New York Journal of Books) About the Author Facing History and Ourselves is an international educational and professional development organization whose mission is to engage students of diverse backgrounds in an examination of racism, prejudice, and antisemitism in order to promote the development of a more humane and informed citizenry. By studying the historical development of the Holocaust and other examples of genocide, students make connections between history and the moral choices they confront in their own lives.