

Dear Trinity Legacies Group,

On behalf of Ógra Shinn Féin TCD, we call on the Trinity Legacies Working Group to rename the Berkeley Library to the Wolfe Tone Library to honour a significant Irish republican figure and Trinity College Dublin alumnus.

The evidence available clearly shows that George Berkeley was a slave and plantation owner and also a supporter for the slave system and settler colonialism. To keep a library named after him in his honour would highlight the shameless lack of effort to end ties with what was a nefarious past.

Due to this, we advocate for the library to be renamed The Wolfe Tone library. Wolfe Tone is a Trinity graduate of Law and a key Irish republican figure of the founding of the United Irishmen whose objective was to disintegrate the divisions between Catholics and Protestants and free Ireland from British colonial rule. In spite of Wolfe Tone being one of Trinity's most influential graduates, there is no attempt to have anything named after him to remember his significant work for removing religious barriers, colonial rule and holding ideals which encapsulate everything progressive in our society.

Since the 18th century Trinity has grown into a diverse campus with a diverse mix of students from all backgrounds, however by having buildings named after racists, we lose a sense of inclusivity and a chance to have a respectful learning environment which will ultimately reflect poorly on TCD.

We urge Trinity College Dublin to separate itself from its imperialist past, and to wholeheartedly embrace a progressive future. Renaming this library after Wolfe Tone would be an important step towards this goal.

Is mise le meas,
Ógra Shinn Féin TCD.