

# OPINION: What defines the city of New Bedford?

By Yue Ryder

*"I just wanted to share my thoughts with you because I just realized something about new bedford that I never really thought about before... I hope you like this as much as you liked the photo."*

Settled in 1652 and incorporated in 1787 New Bedford is the sixth largest city in the state of Massachusetts with a population of 95,072 people.

New Bedford is nicknamed "The Whaling City" because during the 19th century, the city was one of the most important, if not the most important, whaling ports in the world. Today I was wandering around and I always asked myself "I don't know too much about my home town, so what makes this city so known?"

After doing some research I came to realize that I had some misconceptions about the city. Yes, there is violence and yes, there have been some bad things that have happened here – but the reality of it is that this city is a **great** city. With history we barely know or acknowledge, we now forget that this city was built by settlers who moved here for freedom and independence. It is also known to be one of the most important whaling ports in the world along side with Nantucket, Massachusetts and New London, Connecticut.



I honestly am happy to know that my hometown has such a great story behind its cover and just to show the real meaning of this city I wanted to take a photo of this clock in Downtown New Bedford.

To me this clock symbolizes the time that has passed by

throughout the years of this city. This clock to me represents the time, patience, and strength of the struggles that we all have faced living in this city. But like they all say “What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger.” Well, this clock has stood its ground through good and bad times with this city and honestly I’m inspired because it gives out the true definition of that saying.

I hope others can see and understand that just because there is violence doesn’t define a city if anything it just shows that violence is all around us no matter where we are. Instead of feeding into that we should understand that nothing is more important than patience and peace...

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*Want to see more photos that Yue has taken?*

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