LET'Sface it: 2016 was a year riddled with things we wish we could forget. From the blown 3-1 leads in sports to dozens of political, economic, and social controversies, this was a year for the history books.

To kick off the year, members of the Hollywood community and moviegoers anticipated the release of the Academy Award nominations in January. It was an extreme disappointment, however, when the academy neglected to recognize the accomplishments of people of color in their nominations, resulting in #OscarsSoWhite trending on social media. With significant public disapproval of the academy’s decision, many actors and actresses, including Jada Pinkett Smith, Will Smith, and Spike Lee, boycotted the Oscars in response.

Come February, there was an uplift in the entertainment community. Kanye West released his heavily anticipated album “The Life of Pablo,” featuring artists such as Future and Chance the Rapper, as well as newcomer Desiigner. West’s album was released in the midst of a Supreme Court nomination controversy following the death of conservative Justice Antonin Scalia. These events represented a clear disconnect between progress in pop culture and tension in the political sphere.

In March, world health issues established a definite hold on the United States with the confirmation of more than 100 cases of the Zika virus inside the nation’s borders. From this point forward, Zika continued to spread exponentially, both inside and outside of the U.S.

Keeping pace with previous acts of violence, the Syrian conflict escalated throughout the month of April. Heavy Assad airstrikes opposing the Syrian rebel forces resulted in a significant worsening of living conditions for Syrian citizens, along with a steadily increasing death toll. Although the circumstances differ substantially, death also impacted American pop culture, with Prince becoming one of the first in a long line of 2016 celebrity deaths.

According to members of our generation, Harambe’s death in May was a heinous act. The American youth’s reaction to this event symbolized the socio-political strife that placed focus on animal rights during a time of uncertainty in American culture. However, in all seriousness, the death of Harambe following a young boy’s fall into his enclosure did represent the immediate social response to national issues in American culture.

The summer months were arguably some of the most significant months of the year, beginning with the deadly shooting attack in an Orlando gay nightclub in June. With 49 people killed and several more injured, the attack has been viewed as both terrorism and a strike against the LGBT community. Britain’s referendum to decide its future within the European Union provided a brief interlude from acts of terrorism across the globe, but the decision to exit the EU did inspire international concern, especially among other European countries. Following Brexit, international attention once again returned to terrorism, this time in Nice, France, when a cargo truck barreled down a pedestrian-filled promenade and killed more than 80 individuals.

One might think that the Rio Olympics in August would turn things around before the summer’s end, and although the U.S. took pride in the successes of its athletes in the games, Ryan Lochte’s scandal quickly proved to be a disappointment that threatened to overshadow national pride. Lochte’s fabricated story about being robbed during a night out with fellow athletes quickly became a national embarrassment. Regardless of Lochte’s later regret, his actions were inexcusable.

September saw the start of a new national movement initiated by Colin Kaepernick’s decision to remain seated during the playing of the national anthem at one of the San Francisco 49ers’ preseason games. Kaepernick defended his decision as a protest against the injustices and oppression directed toward African Americans in the U.S. Although the cause for Kaepernick’s protest has merit, his demonstration against the national anthem was viewed by many as a slight toward the sacrifices of veterans and current servicemen and women, and may have not been the most appropriate expression of his opinion.

In October, pop culture suffered a shock with Kim Kardashian’s Parisian robbery. Following the event, during which Kardashian was reportedly held at gunpoint, she retreated from the limelight and took time away from social media and public appearances to her fans’ disappointment.

The most prominent event in November was the presidential election, which did not fail to ignite chaos amongst the American public. Donald Trump’s victory over Hillary Clinton caused immense amounts of social backlash, including #notmypresident, which trended on social media long after the results of the election were announced. While it is understandable that people were upset about Trump’s election, the refusal of some Americans to accept the peaceful transition of power after the election is disappointing, as it is the public’s willingness to allow Trump’s comments and policies to create greater national discord rather than attempting to unite.

Finally, a long list of celebrity deaths within the month of December concluded a year of disappointments. Carrie Fisher, Debbie Reynolds, George Michael, and Florence Henderson are only a few of the legends whom the world lost in 2016.

The end of an old year certainly calls attention to our regrets. If we’re going to follow the trend of making a New Year’s resolution after such a challenging and unsatisfying 2016, can we aim to at least have a more positive experience in 2017? If we’re being honest, it shouldn’t be too difficult. We can’t reverse the deaths of beloved celebrity legends, and we can’t change the controversies of the past year, but moving forward, we can at least try to favor unity over discord.