

Sugar and Stamps (part 2)

Would the colonists have reacted differently to these taxes if they had had representation in Parliament?

Remember...

Sugar Act

- Tax on all sugar and molasses
- Tried to force colonies to buy and sell only within the British Empire
 - Didn't want the Colonists sending money outside the Empire.
- Colonists responded by boycotting all British goods

Stamp Act

- Stamp required on all printed, written, or official document in the colonies
- No part of society could escape the tax
- Colonists given one year to come up with a better idea



Why were the Colonists so mad?

- Parliament created the tax – not the Assemblies – and money is sent back to England – not left in Colonies.
- Colonists thought they were part of the Gentry class.
- Gentry class taxes itself through representation in Parliament.
- Colonists don't feel they have representation in Parliament because they live half way across the world.
- As Englishmen, the Colonists should have been consulted on the tax through their Assemblies.
- Rallying Cry: **“No Taxation without Representation!”**

The Power of the Press

x 768. *No Taxation without Representation.* 89

c——s first begin? when, — or assembly. As to Ireland, —
——? it began with the constitu- —, before that kingdom had a
tion, it grew up with the constitution; p—— as it now has, if your
there is not a blade of grass growing — will examine the old records,
in the most obscure corner of this you will find, that when a tax was
kingdom, which is not, which was to be laid on that country, the Irish
not ever represented since the constitu- sent over here representatives; and
tion began; there is not a blade of the same records will inform your
grass, which, when taxed, was not —, what wages those representa-
taxed by the consent of the proprietor. tives received from their constituents.
There is a history written by one In short, my —, from the whole
Carte, a history that most people now of our history, from the earliest period,
see through; and there is another fa- you will find that taxation and repre-
vourite history, much read and adre- sentation were always united; so true
mired. I will not name the author, are the words of that consummate
your — must know whom I mean, reasoner and politician Mr. Locke. I
and you must know from whence he before alluded to his book; I have
pilfered his notions, concerning the again consulted him; and finding
first beginning of the h—— of c——s. what he writes so applicable to the
——, I challenge any one to subject in hand, and so much in favour
point out the time when any tax was of my sentiments, I beg your
laid upon any person by p——, leave to read a little of his book.
that person being unrepresented in
p——. — the p—— laid
a tax upon the palatinate of Chelster, from any man, any part of his prop-
and ordered commissioners to collect it erty, without his own consent;" and
there; as commissioners were ordered B. II. p. 136—139, particularly 140.
to collect it in other counties: but Such are the words of this great man,
and which are well worth your

Newspapers up and down the 13 Colonies used the phrase, "No Taxation without Representation" to unify the colonists against the British tax.

Remember, the Colonists are asserting their rights as Englishmen. They are NOT calling for independence

...yet.

The Debate

Remember...the Colonists were given 1 year to come up an alternative idea to the Stamp Act. During that year, the Colonists and the Assemblies debated and discussed among themselves.

A formal debate between the Colonists and Parliament did not actually happen. But, for the sake of class we are going to have a formal (-ish) debate.

British Debate – How it Looks



British Debate – The Rules

1. Everyone must speak **at least once** – anything on the pink paper is fair game for discussion as well as any outside research.
2. When you are not speaking you still need to pay attention and participate (British style).
3. If you want to speak, stand and the Speaker (me) will call on you.
4. If you are not called on, you must sit down.
5. When talking, please address me (Ms. Speaker) instead of other students.
6. Clapping still applies – all debate stops and people sit when the Speaker claps.
7. Listen and respond to each other! This debate should flow from one side to the other and not be disjointed statements.
8. The Speaker (me) is the final judge on each argument and rebuttal as well as points assigned.

Sugar and Stamps part 2 continued...

What actually happened

At the end of the year, the Colonists had not come up with any alternative ideas and the **Stamp Act was enforced** (so, technically, Parliament won the debate over the tax).

However, many businesses and people **decided they were simply going to ignore the Stamp Act requirements and continue to operate illegally, without the required stamps.**

But, that's not all the Colonists did...

Stamp Act Congress

Each Colony sent representatives to New York to discuss the Stamp Act and decide what to do about it.

This was the first time the 13 Colonies met together as a unified governmental body— a Congress. It was called the **Stamp Act Congress.**

Stamp Act Congress declared the Stamp Act unconstitutional (according to the authority of the Assemblies and each colony's constitution) and basically **gave the colonists permission to ignore the Stamp Act requirements.**

Sons of Liberty

A group of merchants and tradesmen in the colonies (newspaper owners, store owners, sailors, merchants, etc) took to the streets to actively protest the Stamp Act and “protect the rights of the colonists” against Parliament and the King. They called themselves the **Sons of Liberty**.

The existence of the Sons of Liberty was well known but the identities of those in the group were kept secret at first.

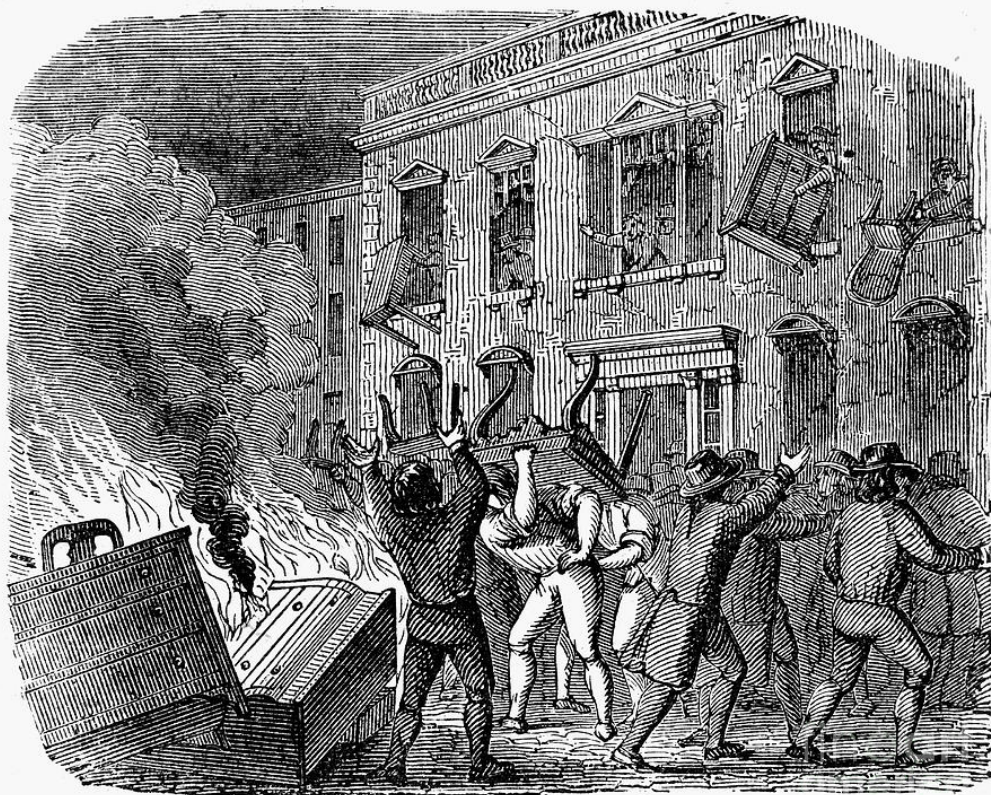
What type of things did the Sons of Liberty do?

Hanging in Effigy



Stamp Officials in Virginia and Massachusetts were “hung in effigy.” The Royal Official uniform was stuffed with straw to look like a person and hung to show disapproval of the Stamp Act.

Intimidation



Attack on the Governor's House.

The Governor of
Massachusetts,
Thomas Hutchinson,
had his home stormed,
vandalize, and
ransacked by the Sons
of Liberty.

Illegal Documents

Colonists continue to operate without the required stamps – which meant everything they were doing was illegal.

Colonists continue to **boycott** (refuse to buy) British goods.

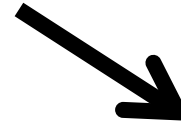
Not Everyone Was Against the Tax

Patriots/Whig = colonists who were against the taxes from Parliament

Loyalists/Tories = felt the colonists should pay the taxes and stop complaining (wanted to be loyal to Parliament and the King)

How will Parliament Respond?

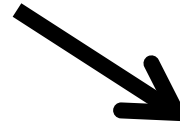
Financial ruin after French and Indian War



Parliament passes Sugar Act in American Colonies



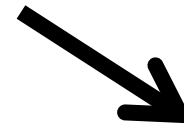
Colonists boycott all British goods



Parliament passes Stamp Act in American Colonies



Colonists ignore and protest the Stamp Act



How will Parliament respond?

Question:

Would the colonists have reacted differently to these taxes if they had had representation in Parliament?

1. Thesis
2. Explain – Why or why not?
3. Conclusion