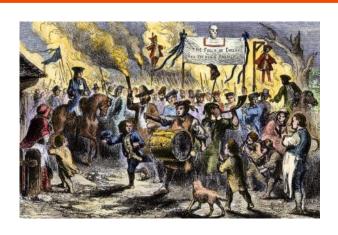
## TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION



0. TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION - Story Preface

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This colored illustration, "The Stamp Act Riots at Boston, America, 1765," initially appeared as a black-and-white drawing for the  $\underline{Historical\ Scrap\ Book}$  (Cassell & Company, c 1880). It depicts the interpretation of an artist, from the English School, who is imagining how people in Boston may have shown their displeasure against the King and Parliament when they were burdened with the stamp-act tax.

For about 150 years (until 1764), the colonists not only tolerated British rule, they were <u>proud to be British</u>. But when the King and Parliament began to enforce trade laws and imposed taxes on sugar (to help Britain pay for the debt caused by the <u>French and Indian War</u>), Americans grew increasingly upset.

The Sugar Act also prohibited Americans from importing foreign rum and French wines. That made matters worse.

People - like <u>James Otis</u> - raised the issue of taxation without representation. Why should American colonists pay taxes to England when they had no representation in the English Parliament?

But England was just getting started with colonial taxes.

By the following year, Parliament (for the first time) imposed a tax (the <u>Stamp Act</u>) which required Americans to pay duties directly to England, not to local legislatures. The law required Americans to buy stamps <u>for ALL printed material</u> (including playing cards, newspapers, dice, and legal documents), thus <u>taxing</u> the most mundane aspects of daily life.

The <u>people</u> were <u>outraged</u>. To make matters worse, George III expected "his" colonists to house and feed British soldiers (the Quartering Act of 1765).

The colonists elected representatives to formally discuss these developments. The "<u>Stamp Act Congress</u>" sent <u>a petition</u> to George III and Parliament requesting a repeal of the tax and reminding the King that taxation without representation violated basic civil rights.

Meanwhile, daily business and legal transactions nearly stopped when the <u>people refused</u> to buy the stamps.

Conceding the point on the Stamp Act, Parliament and the King <u>repealed</u> it in March of 1766, but replaced the law with something much more onerous. The Declaratory Act gave the British government exclusive power to enact any and all laws governing the colonies.

By 1767, the Townshend Revenue Acts levied a new tax - this time on imports like tea, paper, glass, lead and paints. To make sure the duties were paid, the King sent British custom officials to Boston - where they were tarred and feathered.

The stage was set for violence in Boston.

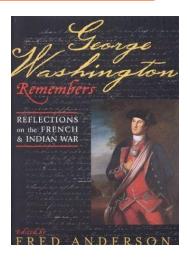
### See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/TAXATION-WITHOUT-REPRESENTATION-American-Revolution-Highlights

## See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/TAXATION-WITHOUT-REPRESENTATION-American-Revolution-Highlights

# Media Stream



### George Washington Remembers - French and Indian War

George Washington Remembers: Reflections on the French and Indian War (Hardcover), by Fred Anderson.

Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. (April 25, 2004)

ISBN-10: 0742533727

Image, courtesy Amazon.com.

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/George-Washington-Remembers-French-and-Indian-War



### Stamp Act - One-Penny Stamps, 1765

Library of Congress - John Bull and Uncle Sam: Four Centuries of British-American Relations - image 34uc.

This proof-sheet of stamps, from 1765, is owned by the Board of Inland Revenues Stamping Department Archive, Philatelic Collection, The British Library.

PD

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Stamp-Act-One-Penny-Stamps-1765



#### The Stamp Act Congress

U.S. National Archives, image 28/4/28-0309a.

View this asset at: <a href="http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/The-Stamp-Act-Congress">http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/The-Stamp-Act-Congress</a>



## Repeal of the Stamp Act

Library of Congress - John Bull and Uncle Sam: Four Centuries of British-American Relations - image vc35

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Repeal-of-the-Stamp-Act



## Tarring and Feathering

Lithograph by Pendleton, 1830, after a print published in London in 1774. Library of Congress, Reproduction number LC-USZ62-1308.

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Tarring-and-Feathering



## Tax Stamp - British Revenue (1765-1766)

Artifact owned by the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston.

Image online, courtesy Hoover Presidential Library and Museum. View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Tax-Stamp-British-Revenue-1765-1766-



### Bostonians Reading the Stamp Act

Bostonians Reading the Stamp Act, from 1765. Online, courtesy New York Public Library's Digital Image Gallery - image 808403.

View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bostonians-Reading-the-Stamp-Act



## TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION

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## Colonial Americans as British Subjects

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