

The American Revolution



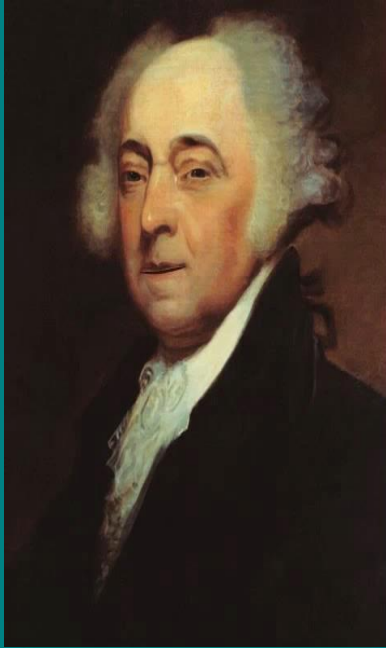
Before We Begin

- Remember our note-taking rules:
- **RED** = you must write it down in your notes; it **will** be on the unit test or quizzes
- **BLUE** = optional *IF* you already know it, and don't need to write it down in your notes to remember it
- **PURPLE** = a short class discussion; please participate

How the Age of Enlightenment Helped America

- The Age of Enlightenment was a period of time in the 1700s when people started to question their rulers (kings and queens) and the power of authority.
- Several writers, poets, and public speakers began presenting their cases to everyday people, encouraging them to question their ruler's authority.

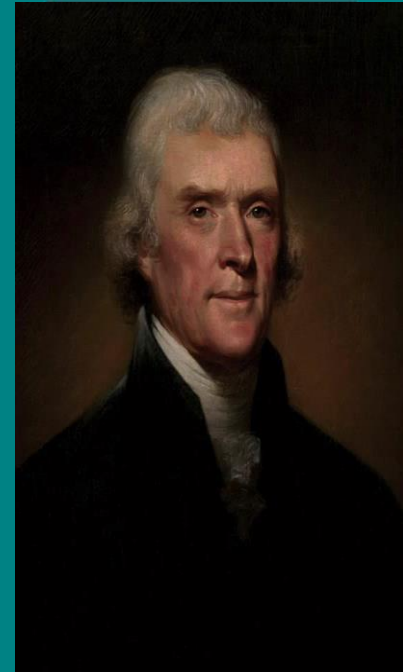
The American “Philosophes”



John Adams
(1745-1826)



Ben Franklin
(1706-1790)



Thomas
Jefferson
(1743-1826)

...life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness...

Short Class Discussion:

What does it mean when someone has “common sense”?

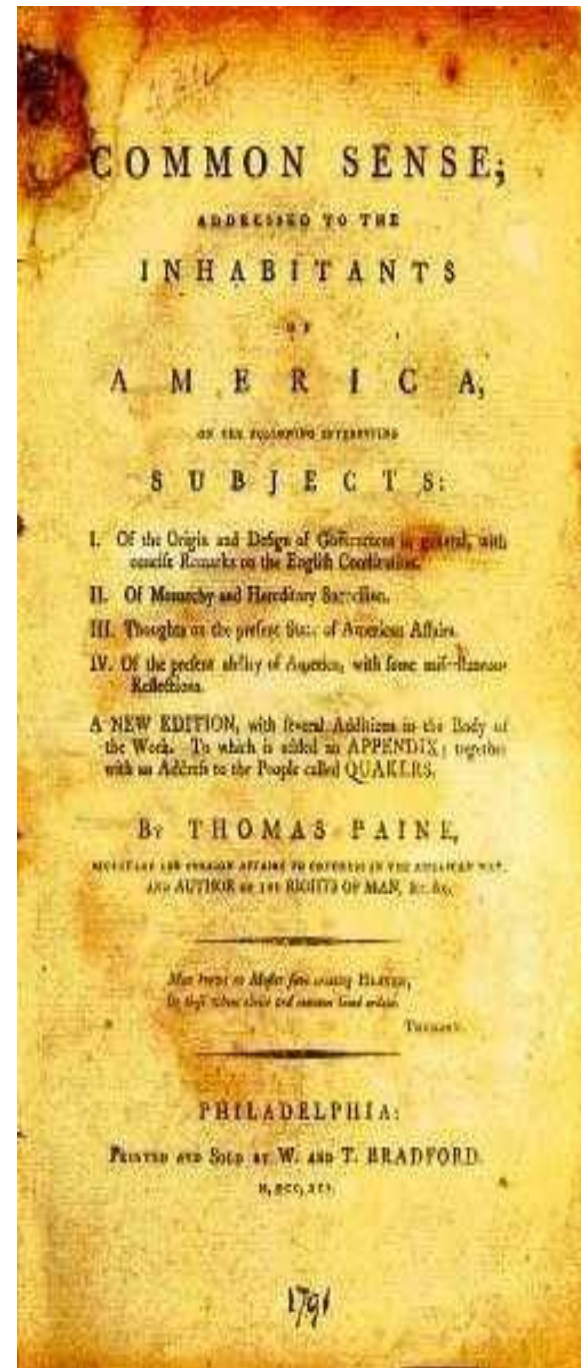
Common Sense: Truth or Propaganda?



- In 1776, **Thomas Paine** was inspired by the Age of Enlightenment, and **created an 80-page document called, Common Sense**.
- In this pamphlet, **Paine wrote about all of the benefits of breaking free from a king's rule.**
- Some supported this document, but others called it “propaganda”.

What is *Propaganda*?

- The definition of **propaganda** is to “give false (twisted) information in order to change someone’s opinion.”
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-LGxOll2zc> (:00 – 2:07)



Cartoon about “Common Sense”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=usvIOOkjHII>

:30 – 5:15

7:45 – 9:55

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kcbgb4GHe2Y&feature=related>

4:00 -5:22

Americans read many books about the Age of Enlightenment. A famous Enlightenment writer, *John Locke* believed that kings should not rule the people – that **people should rule themselves**.

Enlightenment

- People try to apply the scientific approach to aspects of society.
- Political scientists propose new ideas about government.
- Philosophes advocate the use of reason to discover truths.
- Philosophes address social issues through reason.

Enlightenment writers challenge many accepted ideas about government and society.

Spread of Ideas

- Enlightenment ideas appeal to thinkers and artists across Europe.
- Salons help spread Enlightenment thinking.
- Ideas spread to literate middle class.
- Enlightened despots attempt reforms.

Enlightenment ideas sweep through European society and to colonial America.

American Revolution

- Enlightenment ideas influence colonists.
- Britain taxes colonists after French and Indian War.
- Colonists denounce taxation without representation.
- War begins in Lexington and Concord.

Colonists declare independence, defeat Britain, and establish republic.



“People are born with natural rights, including life, liberty, property”.

“Kings can be overthrown if they violate peoples’ natural rights”.

“Government power comes from the consent of the governed”.