

The American Revolution



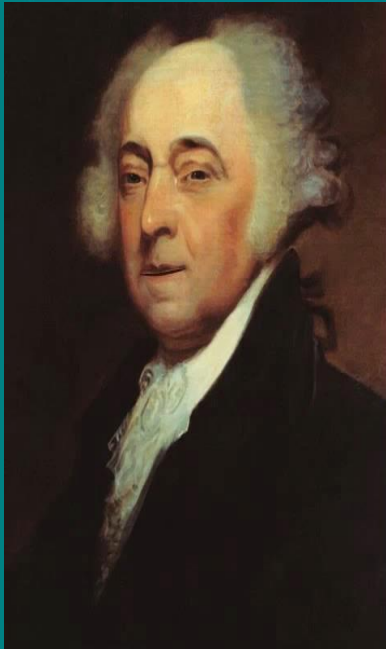
Before We Begin

- 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.

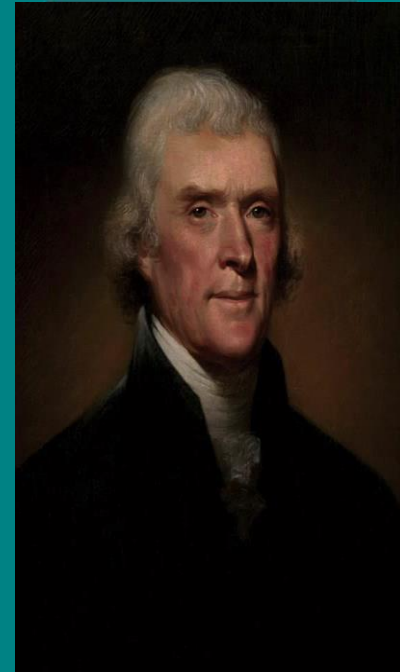
The American “Philosophes”



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”?**

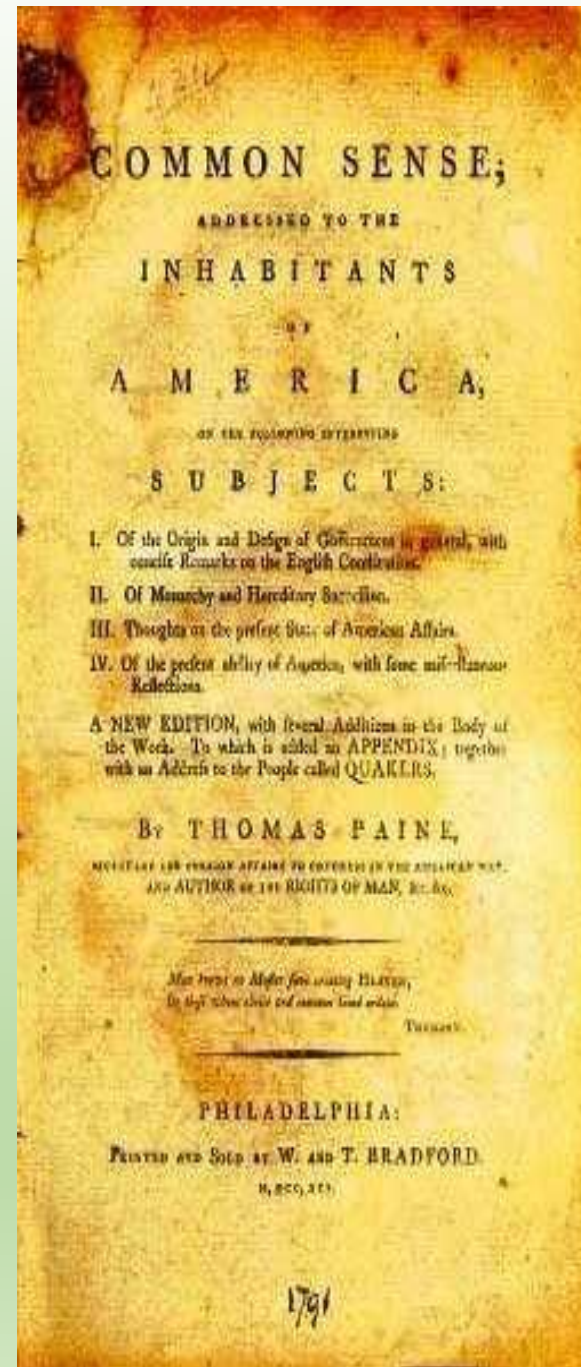
Common Sense: Truth or Propaganda?



- 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=usvl00kjHII>

: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.