

Townshend Acts - 1767

- Colonist are not paying taxes.
- New - Charles Townshend in charge the British treasury. Wants to dissolve the representative governments.



- **Townshend Acts**- system to help enforce import taxes.
- **Writs of Assistance** allowed officers to search ships and warehouses without cause.
- Colonist see this as another violation of their rights.

Colonist Perspective	British Perspective
Angry due to the additional taxes and regulation. No representation. Violation of privacy. Aren't they English Citizens?	This will enforce taxes and reducing smuggling (against the law) Colonist are not "real" British Citizens and certainly are not acting like it.

Boston Massacre - 1770



- Tensions are growing especially in New where trade is key part of economy.
- Angry crowd surrounds soldiers. They begin to shout and throw snowballs & rocks at them. The soldiers are afraid and nervous. Shots are fired. Unclear who is to blame.
- 5 Bostonians are dead. 6 injured.
- Governor brings soldiers to trial to appease colonials.

Colonist Perspective	British Perspective

Tea Act - 1773



- Boycott is hurting English companies.
- New tax is created to help British East India Co. Colonial boycott has really hurt profits.
- Actually lowered the price of tea for colonist because British East India Company could ship directly to the colonies.
- Colonist angry because they were forced to buy one company's tea. This would hurt the colonial merchants because they bought Dutch tea that was smuggled.

Colonist Perspective	British Perspective
We want choice in where we buy our tea. We don't want to pay taxes.	The tax has been lowered so it is cheaper. The tea is cheaper because they have to sell it quickly.

Boston Tea Party - 1773



- Colonist (Sons of Liberty) tax in many cities.
- December 16– colonists disguised as Native Americans threw 342 cases of tea into Boston harbor.
- Destroyed 90,000 lbs. of tea worth thousands of dollars.
 - 342 chests off of 3 ships = 92,000 pounds (46 tons)
 - Damage - £9,659 or \$1.7 million in today's money

Colonist Perspective	British Perspective
	Destroyed property of others. Sons of Liberty are terrorist. Who is going to pay to replace this merchandise. English companies angry

Intolerable Acts - 1774

- Boston Tea Party outraged Parliament.
- King George III calls for tough action and wants Boston made an example.

■ New Laws

- Closed the port of Boston
- Increases the powers of the royal governor
- Abolished the Massachusetts legislature & town meetings
- Anyone accused of killing a British official would be put on trial in Britain
- Strengthened the Quartering Act (added more troops)



AKA - Coercive Acts

Colonist Perspective	British Perspective