Causes of the American Revolution
Salutary Neglect

- Britain passes a series of **Navigation Acts** → **Mercantilism**
  - Not enforced though → Salutary Neglect – leads to Self Government and Triangle Trade (Technically Smuggling)
English create Ohio River Valley Settlements ➔ French and Indian War

- British/Colonies win - Treaty of Paris 1763
- This ends Salutary Neglect--
  - Proclamation of 1763 ➔ King will try to control the movement of the colonists
  - And here’s why… England is out of $ and if the colonists move west, the natives will rebel
  - Pontiac’s Rebellion ➔ is because Colonists ignore the Proclamation of 1763
  - King has to send an army to put down the rebellion of the Miami-Ohio Tribes
  - He is out of $$$$. How will he get the colonists to help?
Quartering Act King decides to have the colonists provide housing/food for soldiers Most are stationed in New York

Colonists in New York refuse to pay for troops

Great Britain suspends NY’s representative assembly
British Policy

Sugar Act

Indirect Tax

Part 2: tougher laws for smuggling

$ pirate
King George III believes that the Sugar Act will have the colonists help pay for the French and Indian War.

Colonists start smuggling, just as they did in response to all other Navigation Acts.

- The king is trying to let the colonists know that Salutary Neglect is over.
- The 1st smuggler the British catch will be hanged.
Sugar Act

Colonists Reaction

> Due Process > Trial > Blackstone

King → Colonists are not citizens

Colonists → No taxation without representation
The Stamp Act

- Direct tax on all Colonial Business, official documents, licenses, and newspapers.
- Colonists form the Sons of Liberty
- Boycotts are extremely effective
The Townshend Acts

- Suspends New York’s assembly until the Quartering Act is paid
- Taxes all building materials such as lumber, nails, paint, and glass
- Includes Writs of Assistance—Search and Seizure Warrants
- Sons of Liberty initiate immediate boycott
  - Colonists are upset with this act because they see that their rights are not protected
  - Based on John Locke’s Natural Rights
The Boston Massacre

- British Soldiers are not well paid
- Taking jobs from city workers
- Colonists form a mob in front of the tax collectors office
- 5 Colonists killed
- Sons of Liberty use Propaganda to promote Anti-British agenda
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<th>DATE</th>
<th>BRITISH ACTION</th>
<th>COLONIAL REACTION</th>
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<td>1763</td>
<td>Proclamation of 1763 issued</td>
<td>Proclamation leads to anger</td>
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<td>1765</td>
<td>Stamp Act passed</td>
<td>Boycott of British goods; Stamp Act Resolves passed</td>
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<td>1766</td>
<td>Stamp Act repealed; Declaration Act passed</td>
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<td>1767</td>
<td>Townshend Acts passed</td>
<td>New boycotts; Boston Massacre (March 1770)</td>
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<td>1770</td>
<td>Townshend Acts repealed (April)</td>
<td>Tension between colonies and Britain reduced</td>
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<td>1773</td>
<td>Tea Act passed</td>
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<td>1774</td>
<td>Intolerable Acts passed</td>
<td>First Continental Congress bans trade; militias organized</td>
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<td>1775</td>
<td>Troops ordered to Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts</td>
<td>Militia fights British troops; Second Continental Congress; Continental Army established</td>
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The Path to War Begins...

- The Tea Act
  - The British East India Company is given exclusive trading rights (monopoly-goes against free-enterprise) that includes a British Tax.
Civil Disobedience

- Colonists use Civil Disobedience to protest
  - The Boston Tea Party is a non-violent protest organized by the Boston Sons of Liberty.
Great Britain passes the Coercive Acts (the Intolerable Acts)

- The Intolerable Acts closed the port of Boston to all trade until Boston paid back Great Britain for the Tea. Used to punish the colony of Massachusetts for the Boston Tea Party.

- Effect: Colonist unite and attend the 1st Continental Congress
  - They begin to set up militias
  - They begin to stockpile weapons
Lexington and Concord

- British Troops in Boston are enforcing the Intolerable Acts
- The British find out that weapons are being stored at Concord
- The British hear that the Leaders of the Boston Sons of Liberty are in Lexington
- Colonial Militia slow the British at Lexington “The shot heard round the world”- Emerson
- The British destroy weapons found at Concord
  - Militia arrives and drives the British back to Boston
The Second Continental Congress

- Colonial Army Organized- Delegates choose George Washington to lead the Army
- Committee is formed to Draft the Declaration of Independence
The Battle of Bunker Hill

- Fighting spread quickly after Lexington and Concord
- The **Patriots** are not just fighting the British, but many people remained **Loyalists** during the American Revolution.
- Although the Patriots lose the Battle of Bunker Hill, it inspires many to believe that fighting the British is possible.
Thomas Paine- “Common Sense”

- Anti-British pamphlet telling colonists to join together for the cause of independence. After all, when considering how terrible the King has been to us, it is COMMON SENSE to want to break away from England!!!
In 1772, Samuel Adams formed the first Committee of Correspondence with James Warren and his wife, Mercy Otis Warren (1728–1874). Mary wrote a series of pamphlets and satires against the British. The new Committees of Correspondence organized opponents of British polices throughout the colonies. With her husband off fighting, Mercy wrote the first history of the American Revolutionary War using her notes from meetings and conversations. Her ideas and writings convinced many people in the colonies to take up the Patriot cause.
The Declaration of Independence 1776

- Committee included John Adams, Ben Franklin, and written mostly by Thomas Jefferson
- This document was written to formally break with Great Britain and provided a list of grievances/complaints against the King.
- Includes the Term Inalienable Rights, adapted from John Locke’s Natural Rights, to include Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.