

Module 03: A Revolution for Whom?

Evidence

African Americans

Women

Poor Men

Dissenters and Non-Protestants

The documents below demonstrate some of the ways in which the American Revolution influenced the lives of African Americans, women, poor men, dissenters, and non-Protestants. The documents in the first section focus on individual African Americans, the status of African Americans in general, and the institution of slavery in the new United States. The second section focuses on white women and the extent to which the Revolution did or did not change their social and legal status. The documents in the last two sections explore how the Revolution affected the rights and social status of poor men in the United States and of men and women who did not belong to the dominant Protestant faiths.

A Revolution for African Americans?

A [1. Lord Dunmore's Proclamation](#)
November 7, 1775

A [2. Memoirs of Boston King](#)
The Methodist Magazine: March, April 1798


A [3. Alexander Hamilton Supports the Use of Black Soldiers](#)
Letter to John Jay:
March 14, 1779

A [4. The Town of Sutton Responds to Massachusetts's Draft Constitution](#)
May 18, 1778

A [5. Pennsylvania's Gradual Emancipation Action](#)
1780

A [6. Petition From Amelia County, Virginia](#)
November 10, 1785

A Revolution for Women?

 [7. Cartoon: A Society of Patriotic Ladies](#)
Edenton, North Carolina, 1775

A [8. Abigail Adams to John Adams](#)
March 31, 1776

A [9. John Adams to John Sullivan](#)
May 26, 1776

A [10. New Jersey Voting Act](#)
1790



11. Engraving: "Keep Within Compass"

c. 1790

A

12. Benjamin Rush on Women's Education

Address to Young Ladies Academy, Philadelphia, 1787

A Revolution for Poor Men?

A

13. Alexander Hamilton Links Property to Voting

The Farmer Refuted: 1775

A

14. John Adams to John Sullivan

May 26, 1776

A

15. The Town of Lenox Responds to Massachusetts' Draft Constitution

1778

A

16. Equality and Property in New Jersey

July 30, 1776

A

17. A Pennsylvania Watchman

Pennsylvania Packet: June 10, 1776

A

18. Noah Webster on Educating Young Americans

1790

A Revolution for Dissenters and Non-Protestants?

A

19. Massachusetts' Declaration of Rights

1780

A

20. Citizens Respond to Massachusetts' Declaration of Rights

May 22, 1780

A

21. Petition of the Philadelphia Synagogue

December 23, 1783

A

22. South Carolina Constitution

1778

A

23. Virginia's Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom

1786

A

24. Massachusetts Debates the Federal Constitution

January 30, 1778