

Primary and Secondary Sources for the British Tax Policies toward the American Colonists

"The American colonies stand no longer in need of England's protection. England will call on them to help contribute toward supporting the burden they have helped to bring on her, and they will answer by striking off all dependence"

Charles Gravier, French Govt. Official, 1700's

"We are not yet recovered from a War undertaken...for their Protection. No time was ever so seasonable (appropriate) for claiming their assistance. The distribution is too unequal, of benefits only to the colonies, and of all the Burdens upon the Mother Country."

Thomas Whately, Considerations on the Trade and Finances of This Kingdom, 1763.

"That a revenue be raised in Your Majesty's Dominion in America for defraying the expenses of defending, protecting, and securing same."

British Prime Minister while enacting the Sugar Act of 1764

"The Stamp Act was repealed after a boycott of British goods in America which put pressure on British merchants." "The tea boycott continues and the British East India Company is near bankruptcy".

Prentice Hall textbook, 2001

"The taxation of the people by themselves, or by persons chosen by themselves to represent them...is the only security against a burdensome taxation, and (is) the distinguishing characteristic of British freedom."

The Virginia House of Burgesses

"...a tendency to deprive the colonies of some of their most essential Rights as British subjects , and...particularly the Right of assessing their own taxes."

James Otis, 1761

"When the people are oppressed, when their Rights are infringed (violated), when their property invaded, when taskmasters are set over them...in such circumstances the people will be discontented, and they are not to be blamed."

Samuel Adams, Boston Gazette, August 8, 1768

"The Stamp act was never expected to bring in more than 100,000 pounds, the tax on tea no more than 30,000 pounds. The War (7years or French and Indian War), cost the British treasury 133,000,000 pounds.

Theodore Draper, Historian, late 1900's

Expected revenue from the Sugar Act 45,000 pounds
anonymous source