

# American Revolution

- Incommensurability (nesouměřitelnost)
- parent/child analogy
- over/under sensitivity
- civil war? not true revolution
- economy, class distinctions: little change
- American exceptionalism

# THE THIRTEEN COLONIES IN 1775





## **Patriot or loyalist? (note the uniforms)**

Silk, Weft-silk fabric, foil wrapped threads, paper, watercolor,  
attributed to Faith Robinson Trumbull (1718-1780) c. 1770  
Lyman Allyn Art Museum at Connecticut College, New London,  
Connecticut



## Paul Revere, "The Bloody Massacre in King-Street, March 5, 1770"

A sensationalized portrayal of the skirmish, later to become known as the "Boston Massacre," between British soldiers and citizens of Boston on March 5, 1770. On the right a group of seven uniformed soldiers, on the signal of an officer, fire into a crowd of civilians at left. Three of the latter lie bleeding on the ground. Two other casualties have been lifted by the crowd. In the foreground is a dog; in the background are a row of houses, the First Church, and the Town House. Behind the British troops is another row of buildings including the Royal Custom House, which bears the sign (perhaps a sardonic comment) "Butcher's Hall." Beneath the print are 18 lines of verse, which begin: "Unhappy Boston! see thy Sons deplore, Thy hallowed Walks besmeared with guiltless Gore." "Unhappy Boston! see thy Sons deplore, Thy hallowed Walks besmeared with guiltless Gore."

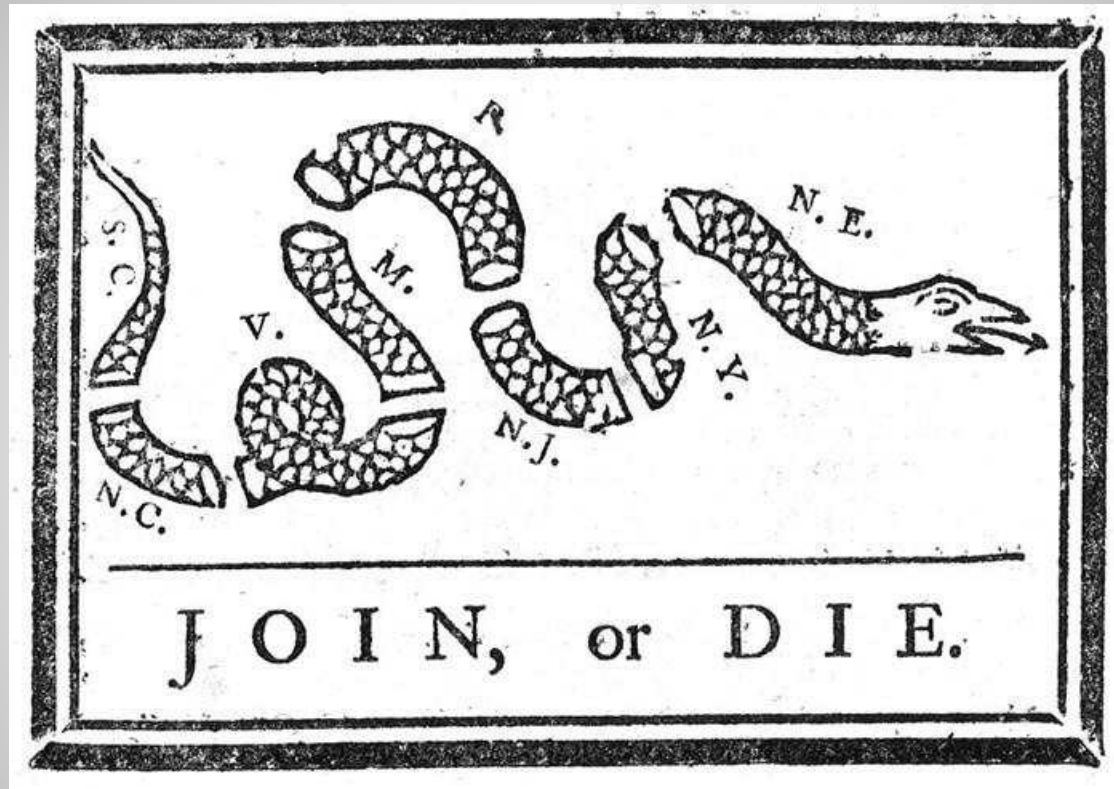


# “swallowing the bitter draught”



Cartoon shows Lord North, with the "Boston Port Bill" extending from a pocket, forcing tea (the Intolerable Acts) down the throat of a partially draped Native female figure representing "America" whose arms are restrained by Lord Mansfield, while Lord Sandwich, a notorious womanizer, restrains her feet and peeks up her skirt. Britannia, standing behind "America", turns away and shields her face with her left hand. (Library of Congress)

Benjamin Franklin, 1754





“I’ll force you to obedience, you rebellious Slut”

“Liberty Liberty forever Mother while I exist”



America as an Indian; Britain as a woman of fashion; French influence as a cock; liberty cap; British oak, dying; Liberty tree, thriving. (1776; John Carter Brown Library)

# Continental currency





“Spanish dollar” (peso, 8 reales)





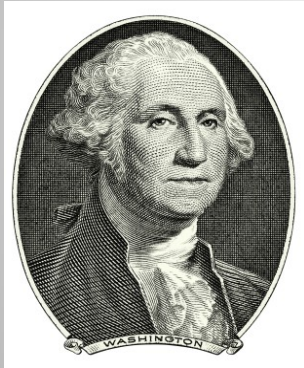


John Trumbull, *The Death of General Warren at the Battle of Bunker's Hill, June 17, 1775* (after 1815?)



**Gilbert Stuart, George Washington (the Lansdowne portrait) c 1797**

Stuart made a good living painting hundreds of portraits of Washington (with the help of assistants).







**Parson Weems' Fable (Grant Wood, 1939)**

# Washington Crossing the Delaware

Emmanuel Leutze, 1851, oil on canvas





## Spirit of 1876

Archibald Willard, for the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, oil on canvas



**Daughters of the American Revolution**  
(Grant Wood, 1932, at the Cincinnati Art Museum)

