

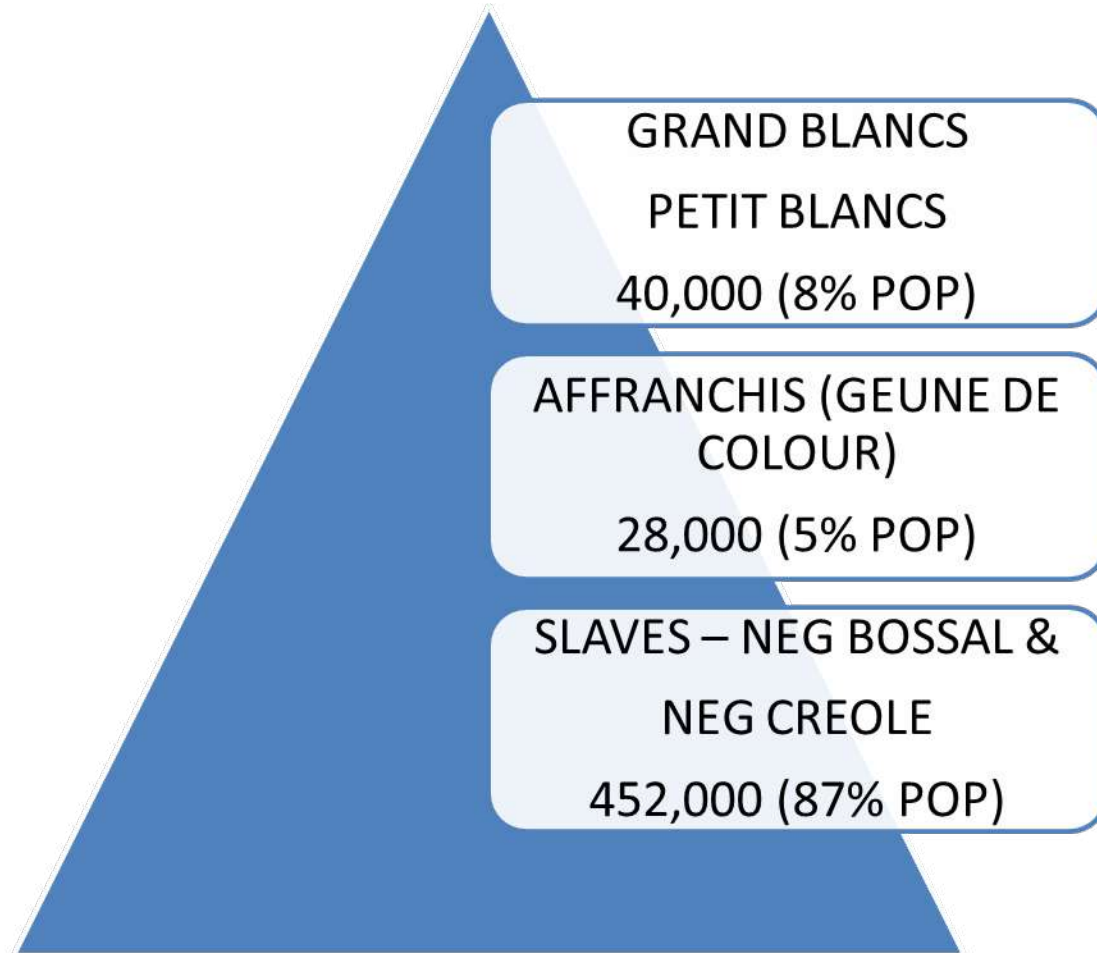
# The Haitian Revolution

What factors caused the Haitian Revolution?  
To what extent was it influenced by ideals of  
the Enlightenment and the French  
Revolution?

# Background

- Treaty of Ryswick – 1695
- Africans and *engagés* for labor
- 1685 – Negro codes – punishments
- High mortality / low fertility
- Slave population – 500,000 – most African-born
- The importance of Haiti

# COLONIAL SOCIAL PYRAMID



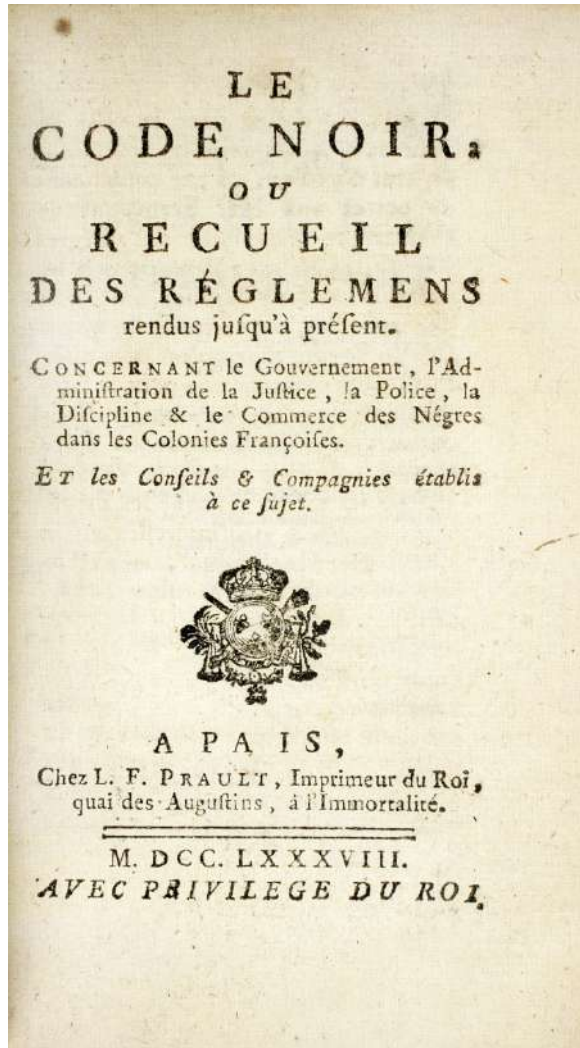
# HAITIAN SOCIETY

*HOW DOES THE PAINTING REFLECT THE COMPLICATED RACIAL REALITIES OF HAITIAN COLONIAL SOCIETY?*





# HORRIBLE ABUSES OF SLAVERY...







By G-d that's too bad if he had taken her to bed to him it would be well enough. Split me I'm almost sick of this Black Business.

my Eyes sack out for his at Wopping are never flogged for their modesty

Dam me if I like it I have a good mind to let go

**The ABOLITION of the SLAVE TRADE.**  
Or the Inhumanity of Dealers in human flesh exemplified in the Cruel treatment of a young Negro Girl of 15 for her Virgin Modesty

Printed April 16 1792 by S.W. Fores in St. James

## Horrible conditions for slaves (87% pop.):

“For the least fault the slaves received the harshest punishment. In 1685 the Negro Code authorised [sic] whipping, and in 1702 one colonist, a Marquis, thought any punishment which demanded more than 100 blows of the whip was serious enough to be handed over to the authorities. Later the number was fixed at 39, then raised to 50. But the colonists paid no attention to these regulations and slaves were not unfrequently whipped to death. The slaves received the whip with more certainty and regularity than they received their food...Mutilations were common, limbs, ears, and sometimes the private parts...Their masters poured burning wax on their arms and hands and shoulders, emptied the boiling cane sugar over their heads, burned them alive, roasted them on slow fires, filled them with gunpowder and blew them up with a match...”



# The French Revolution...





French Revolution broke out




Grand blancs call for independence



Petit blancs & affranchis demand rights

Decree of May 1791 (full citizenship to all free blacks born of free parents) >> raises expectations for slaves

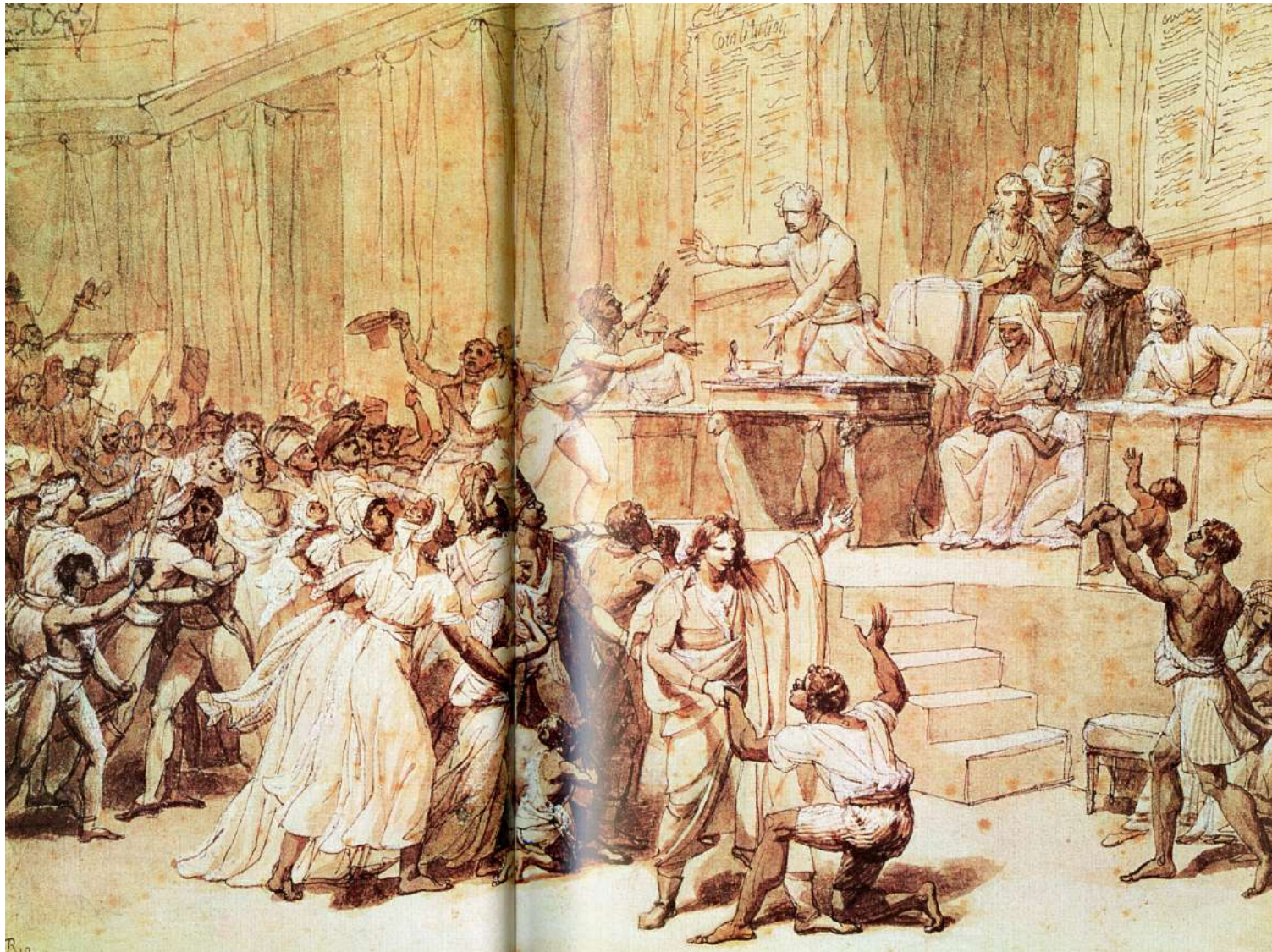


Racial, Class and Colonial Conflict, high priest BOUKMAN  
**THE HAITIAN REVOLUTION BEGINS**



Slave revolts >> atrocities on both sides

# The National Convention abolished slavery





# TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE

- RAISES AN ARMY IN RESISTANCE TO FRENCH COLONIALS
- SUPPORTS THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WHEN IT ABOLISHES SLAVERY
- FIGHTS THE BRITISH (WHO WERE TRYING TO TAKE ST. DOMINGUE)
- NAMED GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN 1799



# 1802 – NAPOLEON TRIES TO RECAPTURE HAITI

- NAPOLEON INVITES L'OUVERTURE TO A CONFERENCE
- L'OUVERTURE ACCEPTS AND HE'S ARRESTED >> DIED IN FRENCH PRISON IN 1803





# JEAN-JACQUES DESSALINES

- TOOK OVER THE HAITIAN ARMY AFTER L'OUVERTURE'S CAPTURE
- DEFEATED THE FRENCH >> NOV. 18, 1803
- DECLARES HAITI A REPUBLIC ON JAN. 1, 1804





# For Discussion / Consideration:

- Were the slaves driven by Enlightenment ideas or other factors?
- Why is the Haitian Revolution so important? (some historians have called it “the most significant revolution in history”)
- What effects do you think it may have had on the Americas?