# The Problem with Liberty Chapter 2, Theme A

#### • WHO GOVERNS?

- 1. What is the difference between a democracy and a republic?
- 2. What branch of government has the greatest power?
- TO WHAT ENDS?
  - 1. Does the Constitution tell us what goals the government should serve?
  - 2. Whose freedom does the Constitution protect?

## The Problem with Liberty





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**Our Founding Fathers knew** their rights as **Englishmen**, watched them be trampled, and lost faith in the British system of government.



Lafayette College Art Collection

The American colonists' desire to assert their liberties led, in time, to a deep hostility toward British government, as when these New Yorkers toppled a statue of King George III, melted it down, and used the metal to make bullets.

### Philosophers Jigsaw Activity



1=Locke
2=Hobbs



•3=Rousseau



# •4=Montesquieu



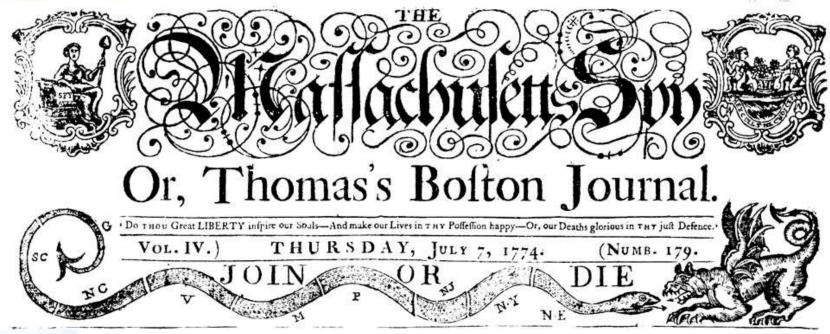
- Go to courtyard, discuss thesis of assigned piece with specific quotes to illustrate the thesis.
- Reorder your group 1-5.

### Jigsaw Discussion

- Go over the thesis of your philosopher's passage with specific quotes to illustrate their beliefs.
- Debate as a group the merits of each. What do they have right? What did they get wrong?

**The Colonial Mind** 

- How did the colonists view politicians? Why? Basis for the view?
- Why did colonists believe rights could not be protected?
- To what rights did colonists believe they were entitled?
- What caused the change in attitudes of the colonists? Of Great Britain?
- Prove that the war was more about liberty than trade!!



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Even before the Revolutionary War, many felt some form of union would be necessary if the rebellious colonies were to survive.



# The Real Revolution

- What was the <u>Real Revolution</u>?
- Why were written constitutions so important to these new states?
- Why was the legislative branch superior to others?

# The Séance?

 Is it possible that Jefferson held a séance with Locke to write the introduction to the Declaration of Independence? (or was he just well-read?)

- What grievances did Jefferson list and why so many?
- Why is the final part so important?
- What about the American Revolution did you learn?

#### ARTICLES

#### CONFEDERATION

AND

OF

#### PERPETUAL UNION

BETWEEN THE

STATE

S

NEW-HAMPSHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, RHODE-ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS, CONNECTICUT, NEW-YORK, NEW-JERSEY, PENNSYLVÄNIA, DELAWARE, MARY-LAND, VIRGINIA, NORTH-CAROLINA, SOUTH-CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

OF

When, How & Why were they produced?

Describe the structure of this new government.

Why was this structure chosen?

Why, then, are we called the "United States of America"?

Congress/JK130 1777 B7

# Weaknesses

What problems did these major weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation cause?

- **1. Congress could not levy taxes.**
- 2. Congress could not regulate trade.
- 3. "Continentals" were worthless.
- 4. No national army
- 5. No national executive or judicial branch
- 6. Virtually impossible to amend.
- 7. Supermajority needed for laws.

# What do you do when order breaks down?

 Think back to the philosophers we discussed at the beginning of class. What would each suggest to do about the ineffective government under the AOC? Which view do you think is best?

### Assignment

- Read pp. 25-29 in Wilson textbook.
   Also, Read Handout on "Men,
   Manners, & Rules."
  - Pick 4 MMR and complete the outline on the next slide.
  - Outline the major issues that arose & the compromises that resulted.
- Due Tomorrow.

### Men, Manners and Rules

#### • For each MMR that you pick:

- What? (Tell what or who they were)
- So What? (Explain the significance of that man, manner or rule to the outcome of the Constitutional Convention.)
- What if? (Describe how the Convention might have been different without the MMR.)