

HST 201: History of United States ONLINE F17 (Escobar 20886)

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The Revolution - Conservative or Radical

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The Revolution - Conservative or Radical

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The Revolution - Conservative or Radical

by Joe Escobar - Sunday, November 19, 2017, 9:43 AM

To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post. To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

IMPORTANT - SUBJECT LINES

BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post, something that describes which side of the issue, YES or NO, you have chosen to support or write about. Do NOT simply leave it RE: The Revolution

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The American revolution was not a conservative movement

by Preston Cobb - Sunday, November 19, 2017, 3:45 PM

Reading the article I would have to side with Gordon S. Wood. Carl N. Deglar believes that the upper and middle classes led a conservative revolution, however the American revolution was much different from others around the world as wood states. As wood states "They made speeches, not bombs; they wrote learned pamphlets, not manifestos. They did not kill one another, they did not devour themselves." The american revolution did not have the same social wrongs, and class struggle as other revolutions such in Russia for example. The white americans were not oppressed. They were not revolting because of class issues and or wealth issues, yet that doesn't mean they couldn't still revolt just because they weren't oppressed.

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Movement Conservatism

by Liliانا Valladolid Salas - Sunday, November 26, 2017, 6:40 PM

Gordon Wood explained in The Radicalism of the American Revolution essay that in fact The American Revolution was very different from others. He said that White American colonist were not oppressed people. That they new they were free and more equal to any other part of the world. Still they weren't susceptible to Revolution. Wood said that The Revolution wasn't conservative at all and that it altered the character of American society and the Course of history. However, The revolution was still conservative to me because it took place without any help from "modernization".

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A Conservative Movement

by Vivian Hernandez - Tuesday, November 21, 2017, 9:37 AM

Before I read both articles, I was unsure of what exactly a conservative movement was. According the U-S History, "it is a term to describe the process through which control of the republican party, has been taken by people with strong feelings in favor of robust national defense, low taxes, minimum government regulation, and traditional social values." After reading a definition, I was leaning towards Carl N. Degler's opinion before reading both articles. I immediately thought about about how the American Revolution was fueled by taxes being imposed by Parliament and how the Americans became suspicious of Parliament's motivations towards American's independence. I believe the events leading up the the American Revolution relied heavily on Conservative views. Gordon S Wood talks heavily about the social change between the relationships of people and government and how that was radical for the 18th century. Ultimately though, I agree with Degler's essay because the most prominent example highlighted was the incredible social change involving religion that agree with conservative principles. Degler talks about the federal Constitution and how it was "the first step of the principle that a man's religions was irrelevant to government." How someone worshipped God was a huge part in which entities controlled people and conservatives want limited government control. Once religion was no longer an issue, separation of Church and States cemented this principle. Even though the church and state no longer controlled the people together, it remained upholding traditional values, such as having chaplains in the military, continuing to pray at government ceremonies, and encouraged religion through taxes.

<http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h4205.html>

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Futuristic Vision.

by Liliانا Valladolid Salas - Sunday, November 26, 2017, 7:28 PM

As Carl N. Dewgler describes in his essay, A new Kind Of Revolution, he said that this event had political and social changes that led to the Revolution. And yet the class structure, the distribution of property, the capitalist economy, and the ideas of the people concerning government were left untouched as the Revolution occurred. I believe that this Conservative movement was meant to happen to influence American institutions in the future.

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Re: A Conservative Movement

by Andrew Smith - Sunday, November 26, 2017, 8:03 PM

Wood did make a good point about the change in relationship between people and the government, but i agree that in the end the revolution was a conservative movement. The colonists wanted to preserve the culture that had developed in American. After reading both articles, it seemed like way of life was relatively the same before and after the war most social classes. The elites, other than loyalists, stayed elites and the more common people still had opportunity to rise in class.

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Re: A Conservative Movement

by Audrey Millard - Sunday, November 26, 2017, 11:52 PM

Andrew,

I see your point, but I still disagree. I think at first they wanted to conserve but as they grew in the new land and they became there own people.... Becoming less conservative.

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Re: The Revolution - Conservative or Radical

by Shelby Presley - Wednesday, November 22, 2017, 11:40 AM

The Revolution was a radical movement. After reading Gordon S. Woods' argument I strongly agree with the arguments he makes. Everything before this was a conservative movement. When you look at their leaders and compare them like Wood did to Washington, Jefferson, and Adams he says, "...they do not fit our conventional image of revolutionaries- angry, passionate, reckless, maybe even bloodthirsty.." These founding fathers are fighting FOR religious freedom and are fighting to be able to have that separation between church and state. Yes, I can see that religion was a part of it understanding that religion was the cause of the revolution for the most part, although it was the cause I don't believe it was the reason they kept fighting.

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Conservative or Radical

by Vivian Hernandez - Sunday, November 26, 2017, 9:57 AM

I read separation of church and state as more conservative because conservatives wanted limited government. Even though religion was no longer a controlling factor, Degler says that religion was still ingrained into the American's peoples lives. Back then it was traditional and now it is in the Pledge of Allegiance, praying in government ceremonies, and in all of our money.

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No- The American Revolution was Not a Conservative Movement

by Sarah Amoson - Wednesday, November 22, 2017, 12:01 PM

I don't agree with Carl N Denger's views that the American Revolution was a Conservative Movement. I think that throughout his article he describes a very narrow way of viewing the Conservative Party, and I think that his views are more closely aligned with the modern description of "Conservative" (which is also very inaccurate) and during colonial times I believe the description of what a "Conservative" is was very different then. Denger starts by stating that though George Washington said, "a man's religious tenants will not forfeit the protection of the Laws nor deprive him of the right of attaining and holding the highest offices that are known in the United States." Religion still played a large part in how people were elected for office in the US. I do not believe that this is because of religious conservatives pushing their religion onto others and having complete control over the country, I believe religion held a large influence because during that time in history religion played a much larger role in everyday life than it does today, and this was something you can find evidence of across the entire world at time, throughout all religions, especially Christianity and Catholicism. Denger than tries to make the argument that many memorable names in the American Revolution were, "...largely members of the ruling class." However, if these men were already well off, and their claimed sole involvement in the revolutionary war was to only better themselves, they already have money and power, why would they agree to go to war, and risk their own lives? These men were true patriots who made many sacrifices for no other reason than freedom.

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Re: No- The American Revolution was Not a Conservative Movement

by Shelby Presley - Sunday, November 26, 2017, 11:20 AM

Sarah,

Your point about religion being a much bigger part in society then than now is an interesting idea to me. I agree with you in that no it wasn't a conservative movement. I hadn't taken into consideration the difference in the way we think about religion now versus then. Didn't this whole thing start from the idea of religious freedom and not wanting religion to rule the government? Obviously there were other factors but how could it be a conservative movement when that was the end goal?

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The Conservative Revolution

by Katrina Alsup - Wednesday, November 22, 2017, 8:50 PM

I would say I agree with Degler, that the revolution was conservative because you didn't see much social mobility in the government offices. Degler mentioned a good point that the key leaders of our country's new government at the time were all wealthy and well-established people in the community, they were wealthy, educated, and had experience with politics but they were not farmers nor craftsmen of the lower class. The majority of revolutions we've read in history ended with the overthrowing of current leadership, and the emergence of new, diverse leaders from lower classes who understood the people. That's what makes our country's revolution different, we still had the majority of officials from higher ranking classes. Today, we can still see the conservative revolution of America, it may have improved over the centuries, but the majority of officials are still established politicians and people who are wealthier with a higher education.

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Conservative Movement

by Vivian Hernandez - Saturday, November 25, 2017, 10:36 AM

I also agreed with Degler's opinion that the American Revolution was a conservative movement. I think you are absolutely correct that the American revolution was different because the people who became in charge of the Republic were not poor, but most were born wealthy politicians.

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Conservative Revolution

by Liliana Valladolid Salas - Wednesday, November 22, 2017, 9:36 PM

After reading the essay, A new Kind of Revolution and The Radicalism of the American Revolution, I had a hard time deciding if the Revolution was conservative or not. The American Revolution was conservative because it was resisting against change and power. The colonies were based in freedom and equality. When the English crown and the Parliament were trying to take over control of the colonies, the colonist became angry and opted for resisting to be rule.

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I'm thinking, radically

by Audrey Millard - Wednesday, November 22, 2017, 11:13 PM

At first read, I see the point in both yes and no, but personally I am leaning to the "No" side. Without the revolutions made by the radical side the conservative side does not have much. I believe a lot of the major changes in our society was made in the hands of the radicals. I also

believe that it takes both yes and the no side to make the country we have today. Not one is more important than the other. Another reason I lean more to the radical side, is I feel like there are some holes in the yes sides argument, I'll expand on this in later posts.

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Both Sides

by Vivian Hernandez - Thursday, November 23, 2017, 10:47 AM

I agree that it does take both sides to make the country. I don't think the radical or conservative sides of the country can take sole responsibility for the revolution. But I think if we had to choose one side, I agreed with the conservative essay because a lot of the reasons the revolution began agreed with conservative views such as taxes and limited government.

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Beginning of the Conservative Revolution.

by Liliana Valladolid Salas - Sunday, November 26, 2017, 8:07 PM

It was hard to choose a side especially because the American War for Independence was an event who was considering survival, victory distort, or enlarge the narrow the motto for the war. However, as Degler described is in his essay, A New Kind of Revolution, the political limitations and constitutional purposes helped to mold the American tradition. In other words the beginning of the Conservative Revolution.

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Conservative

by Andrew Smith - Sunday, November 26, 2017, 6:56 PM

I agree with Degler that the revolution was a conservative movement. The fact that societal structure and practice remained fairly the same after the revolution shows me that the revolution was due to conservative reasons rather than radical ones. Degler speaks about how the wealthy elite, including the founding fathers, remained in the same positions of power as before the war. He says, "No social class came to power through the door of revolution." To me this shows that the revolution was a result of the new type of capitalistic society that emerged in America. These wealthy men wanted the freedom to make their own fortunes. They didn't want any sway or control over their way of life. Degler also speaks about the founding fathers remaining in the same political office after the revolution. Of those holding office post war, 75 percent held office pre war. The revolution wasn't orchestrated by the same types of "revolutionaries" seen in other revolutions. The leaders of our revolution were mostly highly educated and gentlemen. Degler sums up the point I'm making when he says, "the conclusion that the revolution was thoroughly an upper-middle class affair in leadership and aim is inescapable."

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I'm thinking, radically-extended

by Audrey Millard - Sunday, November 26, 2017, 11:49 PM

All change is radical, you need to think outside of your barriers for change. In the No defense, they give great historical fact to back themselves up. All men are create equal is 100% a radical thought for that time, in no way is that conservative. The conservative party has a hard time with that concept even today... Change usually is not a very popular movement, it's hard and sometimes you stand alone. A lot of the founders of this country had to stand by themselves, radically against norms, to make a statement. When I read into the YES side of this argument I find myself shaking my head in disbelief. Conservation does exactly what it sounds like, keeps things the same and limited. America is about change...

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