

# HST 201: US History F19 (Escobar)

[Home](#) / [My courses](#) / [HST 201 F19 \(Escobar Meta 20635 22256\)](#) / [Week 6 November 3 - November 9](#) / [Forum 2](#) / [The Debate Continues](#)



Search forums

## Forum 2 The Debate Continues

[Subscribe](#)

◀ [The Debate Continues](#)

[The Great Awakening](#) ▶

Display replies in nested form

Move this discussion to ...

Move

Pin



### The Debate Continues

by [Joe Escobar](#) - Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 11:02 AM

**NEW MATERIALS, short videoclips and a website, are now available on the [Forum Materials and Questions webpage](#).**

To make your POSTS using these new materials, 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 specific historian or source you are using and whether they support the YES or NO position in the debate. Do NOT simply leave it RE: The Debate Continues

Sum of ratings: \_

[Permalink](#)

[Edit](#)

[Delete](#)

[Reply](#)



### Yes. The Great Awakening & a connection with the American Revolution

by [Sara Montiel](#) - Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 4:49 PM

I was able to watch The Great Awakening Video clip and I was able to see that many of the historians that spoke in the video took the side that The Great Awakening was in fact a key to the American Revolution. At the start of this forum I really believed that the Great Awakening was not a key to the American Revolution but after watching this video clip and hearing their points of view, I have certainly began leaning in the opposite direction. Based on many good points made, the one that really shifted me to say yes, it was, was

how one of the historians explained how George Whitefield really affected the lives of so many people. Historian Stephen Stookey mentioned that "Ethnic barriers racial barriers gender barriers were cut across the line in the awakening" (First Video clip) So many people from different racial backgrounds, from different economic situations all became one big group of people."In the First Great Awakening many people were on the path to thinking of themselves as a separate people, as a people for the first time because this was a national event" (Barry Hankins, First Video Clip) So religion really began to unite the people and bring them together. People are stronger together and it really does make sense why the Great Awakening would have a part in what was to come. One of the historians go on to say "That idea of individual experience of grace began to feed onto emerging ideals of american independence and american individualism, & so people speak up, they get energized, they participate they overthrow ministers they don't like and In that deeper and more cultural or social way, Religion can be seen as a kind of backdrop or pre cause of the american revolution." ( First Video Clip) The point where he said "...began to feed onto emerging ideals of american independence and american individualism..." I think that is the point that got me the most. The fact that they got a feel for independence which is what the American Revolution was fought over seems like a very big connection.

Sum of ratings: [3 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Re: Yes. The Great Awakening & a connection with the American Revolution**by [Melissa Kimp](#) - Saturday, October 26, 2019, 11:15 PM

I agree that the videos and the website showed that the Great Awakening was a key to the American revolution. Their point of view really swayed my opinion. The website made some really good points on how they started to have individualized thinking. The website mentioned, "colonists were finally able to step out from under the protectorate of the established Christian churches and assert religious control over their own nation's destiny" (website- towards an American identity). I think this was really the start of the American drive for independence.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**More details on the effects of the GA**by [Clay Noteboom](#) - Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 8:38 PM

The supplemental videos suggest that the Great Awakening did, in fact, have an impact on the colonists path toward revolution.

Video 1 explained that the established Church of England was challenged by the introduction to the great awakening. This is simple background information. It goes on to outline some of the main players, beginning with Jonathan Edwards, who is credited with sparking the movement (Stookey, 0:45 in Video 1). He was considered "a true intellectual" (Hankins 1:18 in video 1). His intellect and respect earned him an audience that arrived with an open and eager mind.

The next player was George Whitfield, an "in-your-face", passionate clergyman who urged repentance, believing that God sent him to do this job. In the first video, Marsden describes Whitfield as a modern day "star"; he goes on to describe how he once gave a speech, without sound amplification, to 20,000

people. Whitfield preached to thousands of people, trying his best to convert them. He gave over 18,000 sermons (Marshall, 4:35 in video 1). Whitefield touched and affected thousands of colonists.

Other preachers also contributed to the effect. Samuel Davies was described as "an extraordinary speaker" (Video 2, 1:34), and Patrick Henry followed him closely. Video 2 says that these leaders had a "profound, personal impact" on their listeners (0:21).

The videos suggest, consistently, that the Great Awakening brought people together, creating a sense that everyone is on the same page. GA made people think as a "people" for the first time. Ethnic, gender, racial barriers were cut across the line in the awakening. People start to think for themselves, they start standing up for each other, and talking. They start participating, overthrowing, etc. This is a small step towards the American Revolution: "And so people speak up, they get energized, they participate, they overthrow ministers they don't like, and in that deeper, more cultural or social way, religion can be seen as a backdrop or pre-cause of the American Revolution" (Video 1, last sentence).

The videos add details that confirm the idea that the Great Awakening helped the settlers on the path to revolution.

Sum of ratings: [2 \(1\)](#)

[Permalink](#)
[Show parent](#)
[Edit](#)
[Split](#)
[Delete](#)
[Reply](#)


#### Your mention of barriers were cut

by [Brontae Sodeman](#) - Saturday, October 26, 2019, 1:01 PM

I'm not sure if the Great Awakening was as grand as uniting the races as you said in your last paragraph but I think the topic that it linked more diversity to evangelicalism is an important one to note. According to the video, the trend made it's way to the south so eventually, commonality of religion was probably beneficial to slaves. I do agree that the Great Awakening helped individualize the colonists and send them on an energetic path to revolution.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

[Permalink](#)
[Show parent](#)
[Edit](#)
[Split](#)
[Delete](#)
[Reply](#)


#### (YES) Historians do Support the Great Awakening

by [Jarod Doerner](#) - Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 9:42 PM

The historians seem to support the idea that the Great Awakening was a key to the American Revolution. In the video, *First Great Awakening*, Barry Hankins of Baylor University said that, "many people on the path to thinking of themselves as a separate people, as a people, for the first time." (Video 1, 5:57). This means that because of the Great Awakening, people thought of themselves as more than just British subjects, but as people who can rebel against the Crown. Many other suggest this in the video, but Hankins describes it best.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

[Permalink](#)
[Show parent](#)
[Edit](#)
[Split](#)
[Delete](#)
[Reply](#)


#### Great Awakening Video

by [alex Henshen](#) - Thursday, October 24, 2019, 6:17 PM

The "Great Awakening Video" sides with professor Bonomi or the Yes group. The video seemed to have a very positive take on the subject and almost sugar coating the events. They did this by embellishing the numbers. "over 300 people converted in New Hampton Massachusetts, over 100 of them in a single Sunday"( Video). These numbers are ridiculous. It doesn't seem accurate that whole cities would be converted in a manner over hours by a single preacher. This video shows that this awakening happened throughout most of the colonies. Whereas, Jon Butler states that, "The prerevolutionary revivals should be understood primarily as regional events that occurred in only half the colonies"(No article). Therefore the awakening did not have as big of an influence as perceived in the video.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

1

[Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)

### Yes, The Great Awakening was Key to the American Revolution

by [Sara Montiel](#) - Friday, October 25, 2019, 12:36 PM

I continue to agree with the idea that the Great Awakening was a key to the American Revolution. I continued my research with the rest of the videos and only discovered information that only added on to my belief that the Great Awakening was indeed a key. Not only that but from what I got out of the videos, it seemed that the historians also agree with this idea. Like I said in my last post about how religion caused a big impact in the lives of so many bringing a lot of people together uniting and feeling as one. In another video clip, there was another important topic of unity that was mentioned. "What had begun as a few small precarious settlements in the wilderness has evolved by the mid 18th century into a large and complex society distinguished by regional differences but united by a shared acceptance of racial inequality, the importance of religion in their lives and a belief in basic principles of law and politics, that will in just a few decades lead to an imperial crisis" (Video Clip: Unfinished Nation- Divergent Paths) The "shared acceptance of racial inequality" is saying that the idea and acceptance of slavery brought together so many people and united them because of having the same view. It also does not fail to mention the importance of religion in the lives of these people. I think unity due to slavery this was just another small impact on their future individualistic views that led to the American Revolution.

Sum of ratings: [2 \(1\)](#)

2

[Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)

### How the Great Awakening Website Furthered My Understanding

by [Gabe Waisanen](#) - Friday, October 25, 2019, 5:55 PM

When reading "Significance of the Great Awakening:Roots of Evolution", on The Great Awakening website, I am now confident in saying that religion had an immense effect in causing The American Revolution. I noticed when looking at the reading, and website, church separations was information that was stated in a similar manner. When looking at the article "Significance of The Great Awakening" , key information provided was that because people wanted to follow a certain religion, the separation of churches wouldn't let any religion become the "Primary Religion". This information is similarly wrote by Patricia U. Bonomi, when the issue states, "By promoting church separations, urging their follower's to make choices that had political as well as religious implications..."(Page 2). These two similar quotes, both are important to how religion caused an up-rise.

I hope you all found my forum post informative, let me know any questions you may have!

Thanks!

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

[Permalink](#)
[Show parent](#)
[Edit](#)
[Split](#)
[Delete](#)
[Reply](#)


### Church and State

by [Clay Noteboom](#) - Friday, October 25, 2019, 7:21 PM

I like your post, Gabe. It sort of takes me back to my first post this week when I talked about the independence the Awakening fostered. This quote by British statesman William Knox Makes me think about the church and state relationship also: "Every man being thus allowed to be his own Pope, he becomes disposed to wish to become his own King" (great-awakening.com). Knox seems to suggest that if we let people have a personal relationship with God, they will start to get uppity and think they can also be their own leader in terms of government. While the Revolution didn't really go that far, that idea of "Don't tread on me," popular now, seems to echo Knox's concerns. Many Americans these days resist "big government," meaning regulations, policies, even laws. They seem to want what Knox suggests, to be their own king.

Sum of ratings: [2 \(1\)](#)

[Permalink](#)
[Show parent](#)
[Edit](#)
[Split](#)
[Delete](#)
[Reply](#)


### George Whitefield and the Great Awakening

by [Brontae Sodeman](#) - Saturday, October 26, 2019, 10:32 AM

The video we were given, I believe, actually honors George Whitefield for putting together these "national events" (~6:06) that unionized the colonists and made them feel like a separate people for the first time. They use population numbers and crowd [attendance](#) to prove the impact Whitefield had on the colonists. The historians in the video also mention how the movement worked it's way south, which is not what Jon Butler said in his essay. The historians in the video are taking Bonomi's approach, explaining how the slow change created a new sense of individualism that no one had seen in connection with God before.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

[Permalink](#)
[Show parent](#)
[Edit](#)
[Split](#)
[Delete](#)
[Reply](#)


### Re: George Whitefield and the Great Awakening

by [Nathan Mattox](#) - Saturday, October 26, 2019, 10:43 PM

The conflicting information among the various sources provided was something that I also noticed, and it reaffirms my belief that generally speaking, a discerning consumer of information has to look at all sources with skepticism in order to avoid being fed falsehoods and biased narratives.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

[Permalink](#)
[Show parent](#)
[Edit](#)
[Split](#)
[Delete](#)
[Reply](#)


### Henry's Impact

by [alex Henshen](#) - Saturday, October 26, 2019, 2:19 PM

According to the video "The Great Awakening Influence on Patrick Henry" The great awakening had a big influence, at least on Henry. "The Great Awakening had a profound personal impact on Henry..." with his family being caught up in it. "His mother and most the winstons got involved with the presbyterian revival, his father and his uncle who was the angleton minister stayed with the angleton." (henry video) Which caused a split in the family. Henry then became a big influence during this time. He was able to see both sides and find some common ground with in a new speech. Based on this video I can see how the Great Awakening was important to at least some people.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

1

[Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Opinion unchanged**by [Nathan Mattox](#) - Saturday, October 26, 2019, 9:59 PM

After Looking over the new materials, I don't find my original opinion swayed all that much, partly because several of the offered sources are clearly religiously influenced, and therefore are naturally quite biased toward emphasizing the importance of the Great Awakening in all aspects of colonial life, including its contribution to the Revolution decades later. Such a strong bias by no means invalidates their arguments, and much of the information they offer may still be historical fact, yet it is imperative to an unbiased intake of information for the viewer to note the bias of the source and filter the believability of the information accordingly. In addition, several don't provide the names or professional titles of their speakers, making it difficult to accurately gauge the legitimacy of their testimony.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

1

[Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Enlightenment video's**by [alex Henshen](#) - Saturday, October 26, 2019, 10:01 PM

The additional content we were given seems to lean towards Bonomi. The basic understanding being that the point of the great awakening was to give the colonies a voice and a chance to move away from the ways of England. "The enlightenment period all contributed to a gradual but obvious movement of the colonists away from the church and clerical authority." (yes article) In the main video they talked about groups of hundreds being enlightened daily. And other video's captured some of the main people like the Henry's.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

1

[Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)**Great Awakening changing the way of thinking**by [Melissa Kimp](#) - Saturday, October 26, 2019, 10:24 PM

Many times throughout the video and on the website it was mentioned that the Great Awakening had changed the way of thinking. People started to have more individualistic thinking and different mindsets. The website was definitely for the Great Awakening being a key to the American Revolution. The website talks about the Great Awakening creating an identity for America. The website also mentions, "...religious spirit of

the colonists was a necessary component to the drive for independence" (website-Religious Uniformity). I think this is a key part showing the website is for the Great Awakening leading to the American Revolution. After reading the website, I believe the changes in people's thinking led to the American Revolution. The Great Awakening created a drive for independence.

Sum of ratings: [1 \(1\)](#)

[Permalink](#)[Show parent](#)[Edit](#)[Split](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)[◀ The Debate Continues](#)[The Great Awakening ▶](#)[◀ Week 6 Lecture Images](#)[Forum 3 Introduction and Worksheet ▶](#)

 Moodle Docs for this page

You are logged in as Joe Escobar (Log out)

HST 201 F19 (Escobar Meta 20635 22256)

[Get the mobile app](#)

[Policies](#)