

# The on the brink of bankruptcy, a logical

[Business](#), [Decision Making](#)



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

The Age of Revolutions, the transformative period that helped to majorly define the end of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth centuries, was both telling and informative from both a global and an Atlantic World standpoint. The American, French, Haitian and Latin American Revolutions all share similarities and differences that simultaneously individualize each nation's cry for change but also dictate universal truths about the institution that is foreign dominion. The thematic realities that transcend these Atlantic World revolutions were the inviting nature of the current international political climate at the time, the growing distrust and general distaste for parental monarchical leadership, and the deep longing for sovereignty. All of these concepts help to explain how these Atlantic World revolutions were connected yet at the same time individualistic in makeup as well.

Global politics that were in association with countries engrained in Atlantic World empires, set the stage for the eminent fostering of revolutionary ideology. Furthermore, as political and economical decisions made by foreign imperial leadership, such as Parliament in Britain, began to trickle down into every day colonial life (whether directly or indirectly), this instigated radical thoughts. The highest of examples of this notion was the grandiose political and economical fallout that arose from the Seven Years' War between European powers. The British Empire, though enriched through the garnering of Northern American territories from the French in correspondence to the conclusion of the the Seven Years' War, was tapped economically as war always is a very expensive endeavor. With the parent company on the brink of bankruptcy, a logical avenue to raise capital for the country was to increasingly levy taxes on its colonies as an immediate source of new funds.

The levying of amplified taxes on North American colonists spurred radical conceptualization in the minds of these exact individuals.

Another resulting consequence of the Seven Years' War on British North America was the Royal Proclamation of 1763 which portrayed a sentiment that British governance was more concerned with Native American appeasement than the general well-being of the average colonist. Again, this is a great example of fallout from European politics paving the way for revolutionary roots to engrain themselves. Now, aside from the North American effect from the Seven Years' War, the political and economical conditions left in France led towards King Louis XVI calling Estates General. An institution, not brought to life in over 150 years, had roots that spurred uneasiness among the French masses. Moreover, the Third Estate, comprised mostly by lower-class French citizens, became unhappy with the way in which they were being unrepresented.

French Parlement became a catalyst in instigating this unrest. Again, the Seven Years' War, a global European political battle, led to King Louis' decision, which in turn backfired as the masses came to a greater understanding of where they stood in terms of representation in the country as a whole. Simon Bolivar, an educated Spanish colonist of Creole decent, also took advantage of political unrest in Spain as he led his battle for independence in Venezuela against Spanish rule. This is yet another example of European powers being caught up in heightened global politics, opening the door for easier change to ensue. Governing over foreign nation states is an endeavor that could easily be met with opposition if those being

governed feel the need to distrust leadership. This distrusting sentiment usually spawns from unfair treatment of colonial subjects by parental rule.

This was a theme seen time and time again across the majority of Atlantic World empirical opposition. In British North America, the Tea Act of 1773 laid the foundation of unfair treatment of colonists through a manipulation of the tea trade (creating monopolistic dominance with the British East India Company), which was a continuance of British Parliament's reforms that were routinely condemned by North American colonists. The perpetuation of dictated amendments to everyday colonial life by English rulers created unjust connotations that freed colonists from loyalty to the parent. In France, the unjust deliverance of treatment can again be conceptualized through the fallout from the Estates General in 1789. The Third Estate, unlike the First and Second Estate, continually maintained the burden of taxation. This created the response from the lower class French who felt the feelings of being treated unfairly. Leading to the creation of the National Assembly, King Louis XVI and Parliament's unreasonable actions spurred a longing for change. In the Haitian Revolution, unfair and unjust treatment was the most easily definable institution as it existed in the form that was undue slavery.

Slavery in Haiti, witnessed through the brutality in St. Dominique, gave individuals of color reasoning to long for a better life. A key understanding in the Haitian revolution was that the road map laid out by the French Revolution became a thought for the white French elite living in Haiti. Haitians of color realized that life as it already was, was unbearable, to imagine plantation owners obtaining complete autonomy was an even

scariert thought. This gave Haitian slaves a driving force behind their efforts of rebellion. Longing for sovereignty may be the most prominent theme existent in the Age of Revolutions that spanned across the entire Atlantic World. Most of the theory behind this concept of becoming sovereign had to do with the underrepresentation witnessed by colonists in the face of decision making by monarchical and elitist leadership. Taxation played a big role in dictating this sentiment as well as other doctrines denounced upon colonists that were met with dissenting emotions.

British North American and the French lower class quickly took to action when a need for sovereignty had reached its pinnacle when a combination of all the aforementioned came to fruition. For Haitians, witnessing the power of sovereignty and moreover, a realization that such an endeavor was possible through seeing it in North America and France, spurred action. Simon Bolivar in Venezuela became entrenched in the ideals of the Enlightenment, which again pointed towards sovereignty from European rule as a better living opportunity. Thomas Paine, an individual with heightened education, spelled out the need for independence in his book, Common Sense.

This book paved a higher public sentiment for sovereignty, not only in its nation of origin, North America, but also in Latin America, where it was later adapted also as a pro to indulge in to provide public support of

independence. The Age of Revolutions could be the most important period of time from a historical standpoint for the Atlantic World. It changed European empires and set the stage for other global fluctuations, such as the discussion of the abolition of slavery (something the Haitian Revolution was a

key part of). All in all, each of the revolutions were individualistic in their own right but also shared similarities that paved the way for better life for many people.