

Propaganda of the American Revolution

Newspaper Articles

Samuel Adams – Journal of Occurrences printed in the Boston Gazette 1768-1769, reprinted throughout the colonies

“the only way of being able to place the same thought at the same moment into a thousand minds.” Alexis De Tocqueville

Pamphlets – booklets from 5-50 pages

Some Influential Pamphlets of the American Revolution

- **Common Sense:** By Thomas Paine, this 1776 pamphlet is considered by some to be the first American political ad.
- **Rights of British Colonies Asserted and Proved:** By James Otis, this 1764 pamphlet supported resistance to British rule.
- **Letters of a Farmer in Pennsylvania:** By John Dickinson, this 1768 pamphlet supported resistance to British rule.
- **Plain Truth:** By James Chalmers, this 1776 pamphlet opposed colonial resistance and expressed support for King George III.
- **A Summary View of the Rights of British Americans:** By Thomas Jefferson, this 1774 pamphlet supported resistance to British rule.
- **Thoughts on Government:** By John Adams, this 1776 pamphlet supported resistance to British rule.
- Stephen Johnson’s *Some Important Observations* (1766), John Joachim Zubly’s *An Humble Enquiry* (1769), Ebenezer Baldwin’s *An Appendix Stating the Heavy Grievances* (1774), and *Four Letters on Interesting Subjects* (1776)

Handbills- flyers posted and handed out in the streets

Imagery – Paul Revere engravings, Ben Franklin – Printings “Join or Die” Snake