

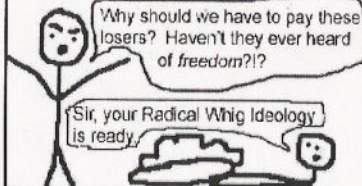
The American Revolution

By Sara Sligar

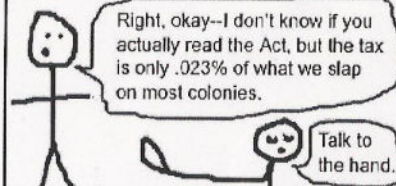
This is a comic strip I wrote for our first paper assignment in U.S. History. The essay topic was explaining and comparing the American Revolution to some current event.

There are a lot of ways to look at the situation between the English and Americans before the Revolutionary War; different people think vastly different things about who was right and who was wrong...

AMERICAN VIEWPOINT

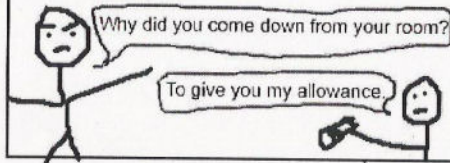


BRITISH VIEWPOINT

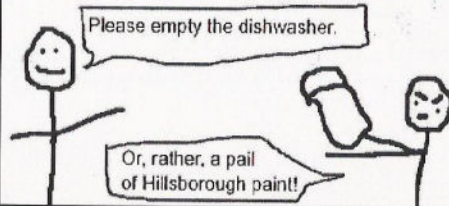


Well, I tend to think that the English and Americans were both right... and wrong.

I mean, okay, I definitely wouldn't like to be under someone else's jurisdiction or have to give up my money, and the British shouldn't have neglected the colonists as much as they did...



...but do a couple of disagreements really warrant such a violent reaction?



But I don't think the revolutionaries were totally wrong in taking such extreme actions--with so much pressure, propaganda, and confusion, it would have been difficult to keep emotions in check and not take things to the next level. I doubt they mulled over all the possible outcomes and then decided to get mad.

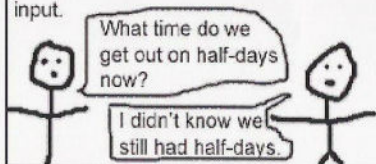
To throw feces on someone or not to throw feces on someone... that is the question...



So really? I'm undecided! I don't think that this issue--who's right and who's wrong--is very clear-cut. Patriotism has clouded modern-day perspective, which is why many Americans are all over the interpretation of events that says that the British were the bad guys. The British were too neglectful of their responsibilities towards the Americans, and the Americans got too upset, too quickly.

In fact, all this talk of who's right and who's wrong and neglectful rulers reminds me of something that's been going on lately at our very own Uni High...

I don't know if you've noticed, but the administration seems to be making an awful lot of decisions without student input.



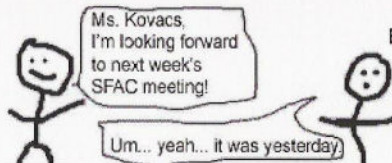
I understand that the point of the administration is to administrate, but I would think they'd like to have some help from the people who actually go here.

If we could have more say, I think everyone would be happier--the students would be happier with the administrators, and the administrators would feel more loved! What's wrong with that?

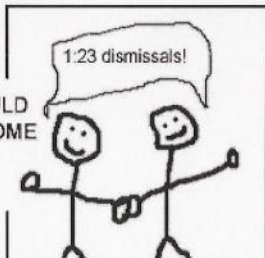
Maybe the administration thinks that they don't have time to deal with us, since we probably won't offer any good suggestions...

...but how do they know we won't? And won't there be less hassle in the long run if they let us have our say now? If we all work together, we could probably figure this out and establish good administration-student relations, which would help us in the end.

Instead of sidestepping us and postponing meetings, the administration could talk to us and explain their reasoning.



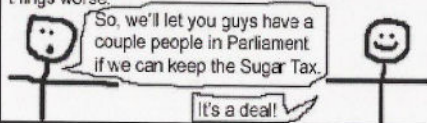
COULD
BECOME



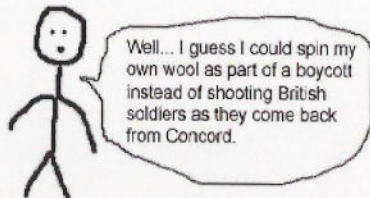
I would just have to hope that what has the potential to degenerate into a chaotic revolt just stays happy and nice for all involved. If this parallel continues, later on there might be a revolution to break free of the administrators, but I for one am not ready for that. For now, we don't want to have a school without administrators, just as the colonists didn't want to be without the king for a long time before the Revolution.

The situation in 1774 and the situation in 2004 are not so very different. The same steps that the British and the Americans could have taken then to keep the imperial bond are the same steps that the administration and students should take now to ensure that we don't wind up making a huge mess of things.

The British should have been more accomodating towards and less neglectful of the colonists. They should have let the colonists have a say in determining their future, instead of running away from the idea and making things worse.



Likewise, the colonists should have tried harder to understand where the British were coming from and not turn to such drastic measures without thinking things through carefully.



So, because it was just so difficult to tell who was wrong and who was right in this situation, I don't think the actions of any one side, or even necessarily both sides together, could have prevented revolution. This makes me wonder if our attempts to get students and administrators at Uni to discuss things won't eventuate in revolution...

...but I guess for that, it's still too soon to tell.

If everyone had been more ready to compromise, the split between Britain and colonial America could have been more peaceful. However, it is in the nature of people to want to be 'free, and also to do what is right for them and not give in to others' demands, so while the British empire may have been held together for a little while longer, revolution was pretty much inevitable.

