

APPENDIX 1-1



THEME ONE PRIMARY SOURCE

Item 1895

Unknown, THE BOSTONIANS PAYING THE EXCISE-MAN, OR TARRING AND FEATHERING (1774).

Courtesy of the Library of Congress.



*The Able Doctor, or America Swallowing the Bitter Draught.*

THEME ONE PRIMARY SOURCE

Item 2125

Unknown, THE ABLE DOCTOR, OR AMERICA SWALLOWING THE BITTER DRAUGHT (1774).

Courtesy of the Library of Congress.

# THEME ONE PRIMARY SOURCE

## TWO DRAWINGS: BOSTONIANS PAYING THE EXCISE MAN & THE ABLE DOCTOR

### Questions to Consider

1. How do these two drawings depict the British and the Americans? What do the drawings have in common?
2. How do the drawings use symbols considered masculine and feminine to make their arguments?



Item 1895  
Philip Dawe, (c.1750–c.1785) "The Bostonians Paying the Excise-Man or Tarring & Feathering." London (1774). Colored engraving. Location: Private Collection  
Photo Credit: Art Resource, NY.

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<b>Creator:</b>	British political cartoonists
<b>Context:</b>	For several years, from the 1760s into the 1770s, Great Britain tried to establish that it had the right to tax the colonies.
<b>Audience:</b>	Great Britain's public
<b>Purpose:</b>	To illustrate political debates

### Historical Significance:

In the days before radio or television, political leaders and opinion-makers used drawings to shape public perception of events.

Each of these drawings was first published in England in 1774 and addressed the question of British taxes in North America. The first depicted how Boston patriots treated British officials who tried to enforce these taxes. The second, a more sympathetic view, illustrated the British forcing America or Liberty (shown as a woman) to swallow tea, "the Bitter Draught." The female figure in the background is Britannia, who often symbolized Great Britain. The American patriot and engraver Paul Revere liked this image and reproduced it in Massachusetts.