

## Effects of Revolutions

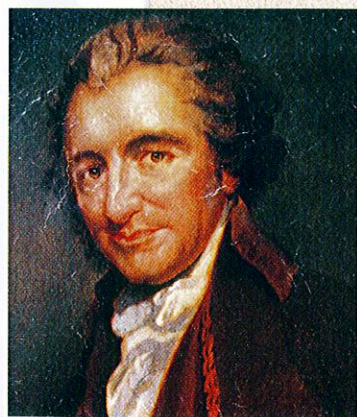
The chart below shows political, economic, and social effects of the various revolutions. The primary sources on these two pages describe the political outcomes that three different revolutionaries expected to achieve. Use the chart and the primary sources together to understand the effects of revolution more fully.

	England	North America	France	Latin America
<b>Political</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A constitutional monarchy was established.</li> <li>The Bill of Rights increased Parliament's power and guaranteed certain rights.</li> <li>The overthrow of a monarch helped inspire American revolutionaries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The United States gained independence.</li> <li>The Constitution set up a republican government.</li> <li>Revolutionary ideals continued to inspire groups seeking political equality.</li> <li>The American Revolution inspired later revolutions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Revolution led to a succession of governments: a republic, a dictatorship, a restored monarchy.</li> <li>It created expectations for equality and freedom that sparked later uprisings in France.</li> <li>It inspired later revolutions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nearly all colonial rule in Latin America ended.</li> <li>New countries were established.</li> <li>Representative government was slow to develop. The military or the wealthy controlled much of the region until the late 1900s.</li> </ul>
<b>Economic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Because it was answerable to taxpayers, Parliament encouraged trade.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The removal of Britain's mercantilist policies allowed free enterprise to develop.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Revolution and ensuing wars with Europe devastated France's economy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upper classes kept control of wealth.</li> <li>Many places kept the plantation system.</li> </ul>
<b>Social</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>England remained Protestant.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ideals of the Revolution continued to inspire groups seeking social equality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The French feudal system was abolished.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Much of Latin America continued to have a strong class system.</li> </ul>

### SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Charts

- Contrasting** Which revolutions had positive economic effects, and which had negative? Explain.
- Recognizing Effects** What common political effect did the revolutions in North America and Latin America achieve?

### PRIMARY SOURCE



#### Thomas Paine

In this excerpt from the pamphlet *Common Sense*, Thomas Paine described the ideal government he wanted to see set up after the American Revolution.

But where, say some, is the king of America? I'll tell you, friend, he reigns above, and doth not make havoc of mankind like the Royal Brute of Great Britain. . . . Let a day be solemnly set apart for proclaiming the charter [constitution]; let it be brought forth placed on the divine law, the Word of God; let a crown be placed thereon, by which the world may know, that so far as we approve of monarchy, that in America THE LAW IS KING. For as in absolute governments the king is law, so in free countries the law ought to BE king, and there ought to be no other.

#### DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

What did Paine believe should be the highest power in a new American government?

INTERACTIVE

### PRIMARY SOURCE

#### Simón Bolívar

"The Jamaica Letter" is one of Simón Bolívar's most important political documents. In this excerpt, he discussed his political goals for South America after the revolution—and his fear that South Americans were not ready to achieve those goals.

The role of the inhabitants of the American hemisphere has for centuries been purely passive. Politically they were non-existent. . . . We have been harassed by a conduct which has not only deprived us of our rights but has kept us in a sort of permanent infancy with regard to public affairs. . . . Americans today, and perhaps to a greater extent than ever before, who live within the Spanish system occupy a position in society no better than that of serfs destined for labor. . . . Although I seek perfection for the government of my country, I cannot persuade myself that the New World can, at the moment, be organized as a great republic.

#### DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

Why did Bolívar believe that South Americans were not ready for a republican form of government?



INTERACTIVE

### PRIMARY SOURCE

#### Maximilien Robespierre

In a speech given on February 5, 1794, Robespierre described his goals for the French Revolution. In this excerpt, he explained his reasons for using terror.

It is necessary to annihilate both the internal and external enemies of the republic or perish with its fall. Now, in this situation your first political maxim should be that one guides the people by reason, and the enemies of the people by terror.

If the driving force of popular government in peacetime is virtue, that of popular government during a revolution is both virtue and terror: virtue, without which terror is destructive; terror, without which virtue is impotent. Terror is only justice that is prompt, severe, and inflexible; it is thus an emanation of virtue; it is less a distinct principle than a consequence of the general principle of democracy applied to the most pressing needs of the patrie [nation].

#### DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

Why did Robespierre believe the use of terror against his enemies was necessary?



INTERACTIVE

## Comparing & Contrasting

- Judging from the information on the chart, which revolutions resulted in the establishment of representative government, and which resulted in a return to tyrannical rule?
- How do the political goals of the revolutionary leaders quoted here differ?
- Compare the types of government set up in the United States, France, and Latin America after their revolutions. Did Paine, Robespierre, and Bolívar achieve the political goals quoted? Explain.

#### EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Revolutionary activity continued after the period covered by this unit. Two major 20th-century revolutions were the Russian Revolution (see Chapter 30) and the Chinese revolution and civil war (see Chapter 30 and Chapter 33). Read about one of these revolutions either in this textbook or in an encyclopedia. Then create a chart comparing that revolution with either the American Revolution or the French Revolution.