

The Tea Party – Then and Now

The liberty bell is ringing. What next, but to hear (or read) of the resurrection of Paul Revere driving (rather than riding) a car...like a Buick Riviera or the most recent, Jeep Liberty. Well, neither of these is occurring – as far as I know – but what is happening is **The Tea Party**.

Long ago, **The Tea Party** of 1773 was *thrown* to protest the taxation of tea – which was only one of a series of similar taxes imposed on the colonies. Refusal to pay certain taxes – on the premise of *taxation without representation* – could be overturned if the colonist agreed to pay a duty (or form of tax) on tea. By paying the duty on the much-desired tea, the colonies **would set**



a precedent that Parliament had the right of taxation – to include all earlier taxes that, in some manner, were in dispute. The Tea Party *ratcheted-up* this dispute with the actual destruction of East Indian Tea.

Three ships moored in Boston harbor were the stage for this rebellious act. When the Customs House refused to leave without the paid duty, locals replied with the boarding of the ships and tossing of the tea. This act of rebellion (treason or sedition), was a spark that ignited the fire of revolution. Imagine a rebellion over some spilt tea that began in Boston and spread to other ports in the colonies.

The reaction of England was the **Coercive Acts** that:

- 🔔 Closed the Port of Boston
- 🔔 Reduced self-government in the colonies
- 🔔 Permitted royal officers to be tried in other colonies – or in England when accused of crimes
- 🔔 Provided for the quartering of troops in the colonist's barns and houses

Tax Day Tea Party is a recently developed/organized effort; and is best described from the source Web page: www.taxdayteaparty.com

The Tea Party effort is just a small piece of a much larger movement aimed at restoring the basic free-market principles our country was built on. The Constitution, for the most part, is being ignored by our current government and we intend on working together to correct the problem.

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The Tea Party effort is a grassroots, collaborative volunteer organization made up of every day American citizens from across the country. We take pride in the fact that we've built a 50 state network of leaders and activists using nothing more than the internet, a few websites and a burning desire to restore freedom.

What seems to *brewing* this time is not tea – or even a revolt against a foreign power – but the suspension or elimination of rights protected in the Constitution.

If there is any segment of the current population (of America) that has experienced such a loss, it is the unborn children; after all, these children are alive and therefore should receive protection – even against their mothers as it were...

The second of this segment is the non-custodial parents, *the dregs of divorce*. Stripped of their parental rights while, in many cases, imputed with child support and other financial and regulatory obligations, these citizens are treated with contempt in courtrooms – only to be at risk of debtor's prison amid the other destructiveness of divorce.

Abortion and divorce have some common ground to be sure; but in terms of the root cause, both are the products of the government's devaluing of human life – both the unborn and the born. The first obviously attacks the unborn life, while the second attacks children through the absence of one or both parents. Both crisis of our society are the result of legal systems that profits from the plight of the poor, while fleecing the middle-class of the rights (and benefits) of family relationships and parental authority. **When the state becomes the mid-wife and the nanny, the family is not doomed to fail...but is just doomed...**

Non-custodial parents know the meaning of the plight, "taxation without representation". With the loss of their rights – for no other reason than being the defendant of a divorce – they must still pay child support and service debt incurred by the ex-spouse (legal fees and other expenditures).

"Where have all the fathers gone?"
They've gone to divorce courts, everyone...