

The Road to Revolution



I. Why Tax Protests?

A. Colonists protested taxes from England because Americans did not elect representatives to Parliament.

B. **“No taxation without representation!”**

C. To protest, colonists boycotted British goods and attacked tax collectors.

D. NAVIGATION Acts: England passed laws that made sure trade benefitted the empire.

- 1. Only colonial or English ships could carry goods to or from the colonies.
- I. Trade had begun to grow in the colonies and England took notice.
- J. The Triangular Trade routes were patterns of exchange between Africa, Europe and the Americas.

H. Triangular Trade:

First leg: ships carried fish, lumber, raw materials to England.

Second leg: ships carried rum, guns, cloth, tools from England to West Africa.

Third leg: Traded these for slaves and sent the slaves to West Indies.

- I. With the profits from slavery, bought more sugar and molasses.

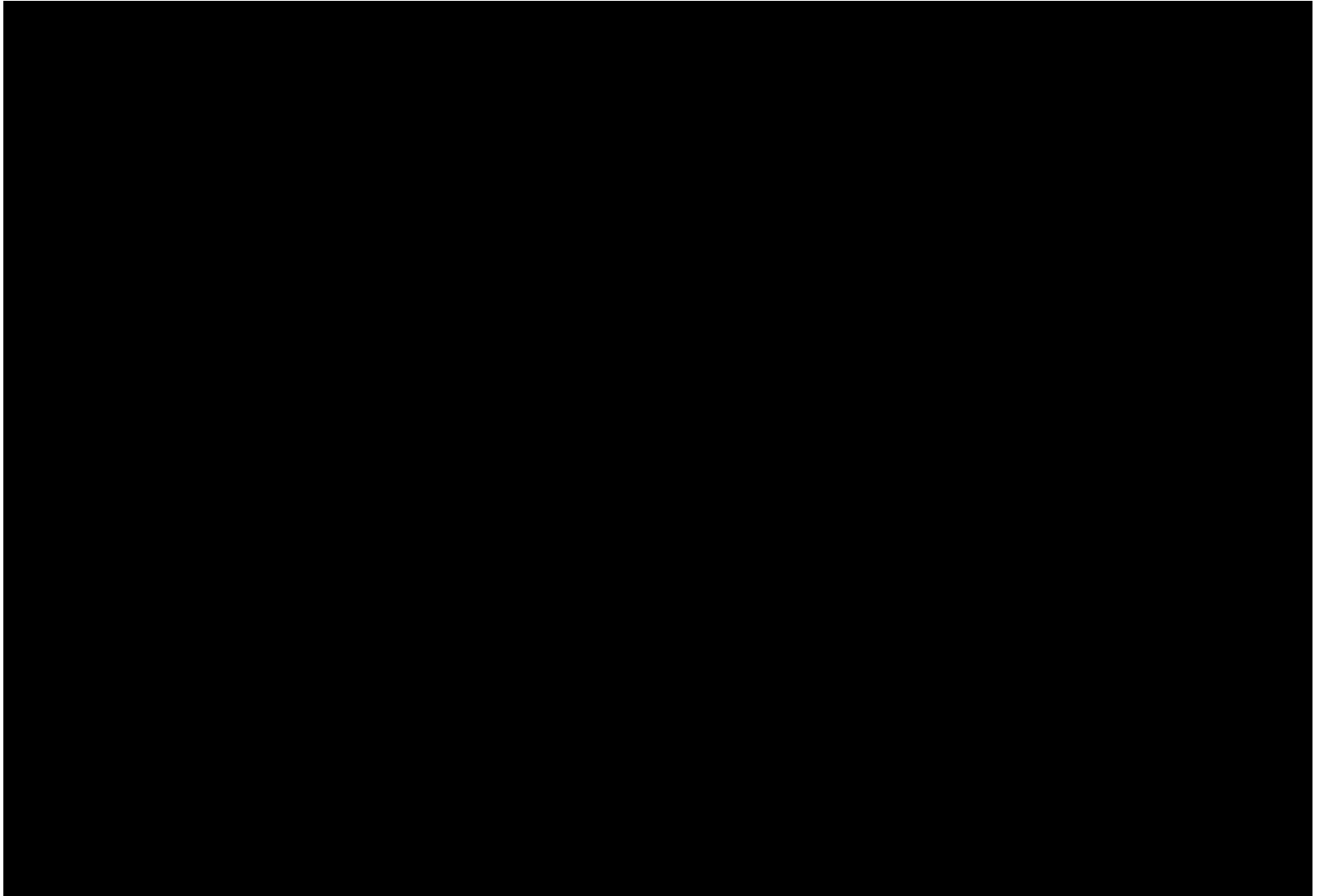


- J. French and Indian War was expensive for England and put new taxes on colonies to pay for it.
- K. As Parliament tried to pay for the French & Indian War debt, the Sugar Act was passed
- M. **Sugar Act**, in 1764, was first tax on colonies specifically to raise money.
1. Put new duties on sugar, molasses
 2. **England also began to arrest colonial smugglers**

II. STAMP ACT of 1765

- A. The next year, Stamp Act put tax on legal documents, newspapers, playing cards, wills and marriage papers.
- B. Protest exploded around the colonies.
- C. Courts shut down as people refused to buy the required stamps.

Stamp Act



D. Boston leaders called for “**Stamp Act Congress.**” October, 1765, delegates from nine of thirteen colonies met in New York

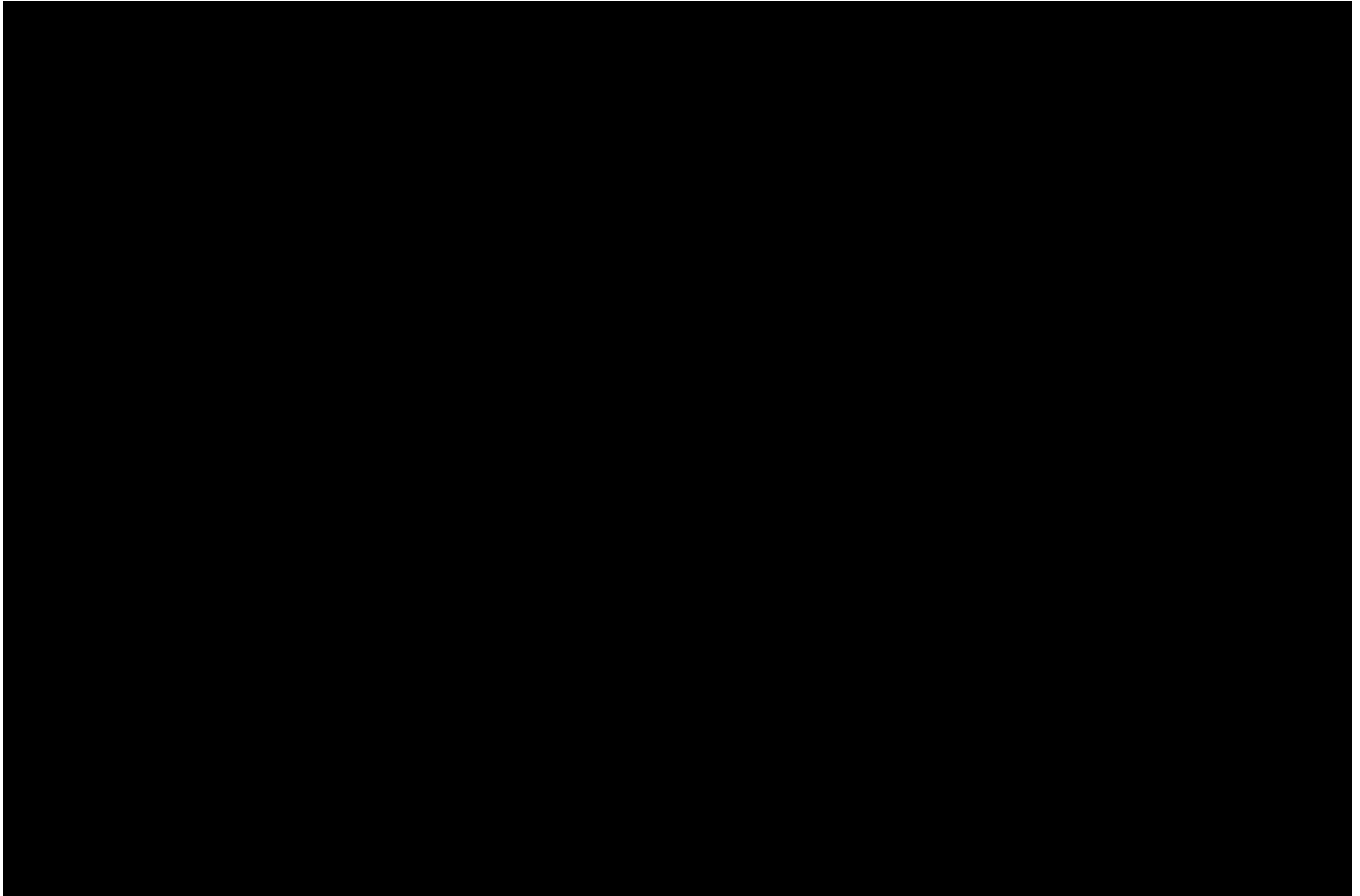
E. Parliament repealed the Stamp Act in 1766.

III. TOWNSHEND ACTS

A. June 1767, these acts placed duties on lead, paper and tea.

B. Colonists responded by boycotting many British products.

Townshend Acts



C. **“Daughters of Liberty”**- signed petitions, organized boycotts of English cloth and other products

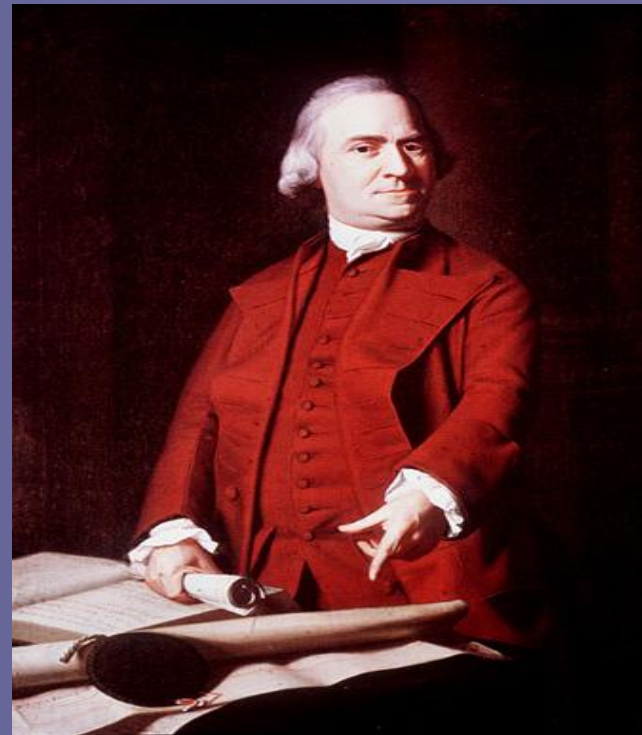
D. Massachusetts’ legislature joined Committees of Correspondence, the organization to create communications between the different colonies.

E. The Sons of Liberty rioted, attacked the houses of customs officers.

F. The colony’s Royal Governor broke up the legislature and called in troops to Boston.

I. **Samuel Adams**

A. Bostonian organized protests and worked up public anger at English policies.



John Adams: Lawyer, became first Vice-President and second President



MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Patrick Henry: Virginian who spoke against England and gave several famous speeches. He was accused of treason for some of his speeches.



IV. Boston Massacre

A. British soldiers fired into crowd on **March 5, 1770**.

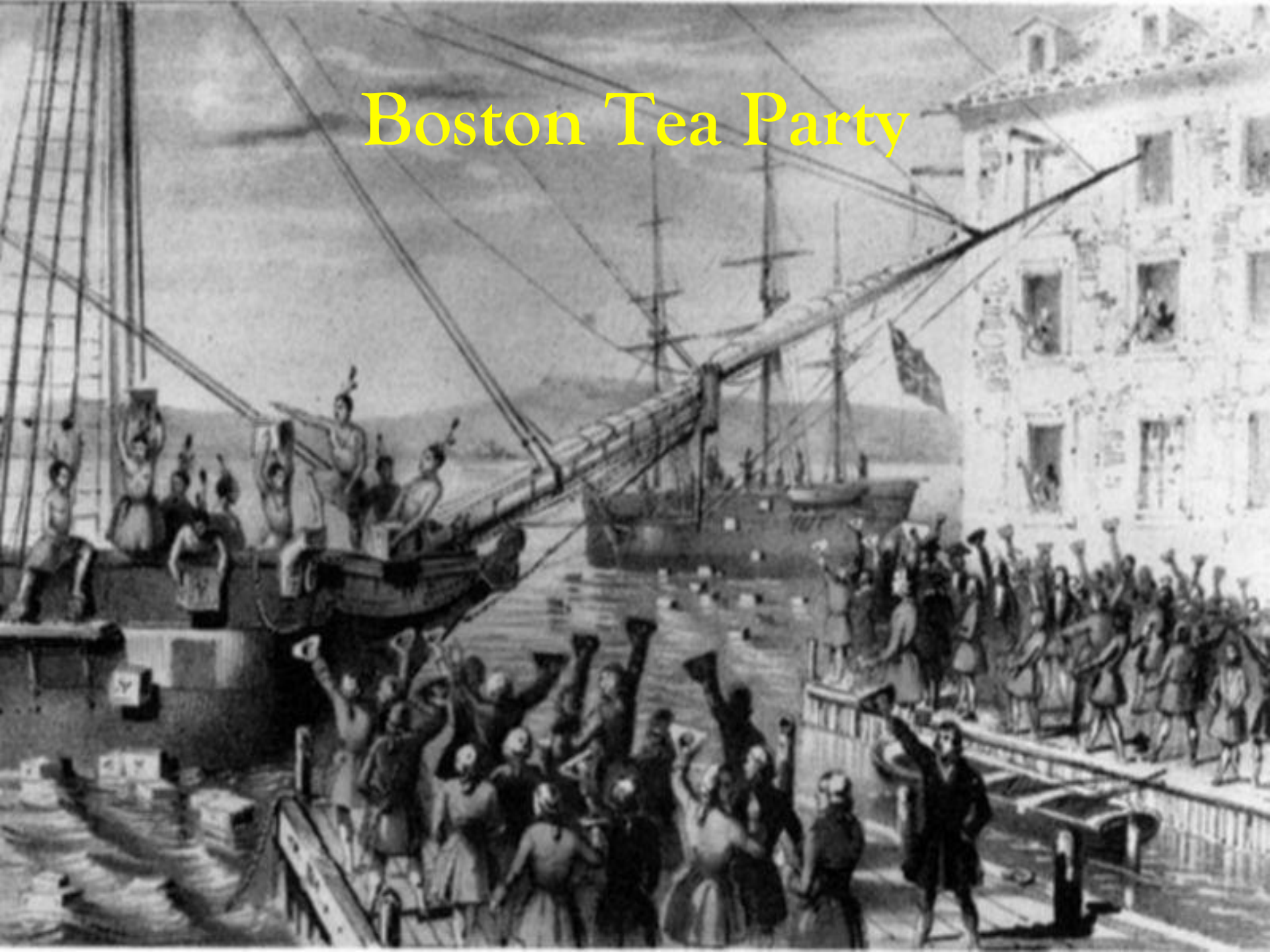
B. Someone threw ice and soldiers killed five colonists. **Crispus Attucks** was a black **“Son of Liberty”** and was among those killed.

C. Protests spread throughout the colonies. British soldiers were tried for murder and **John Adams** defended them at trial.

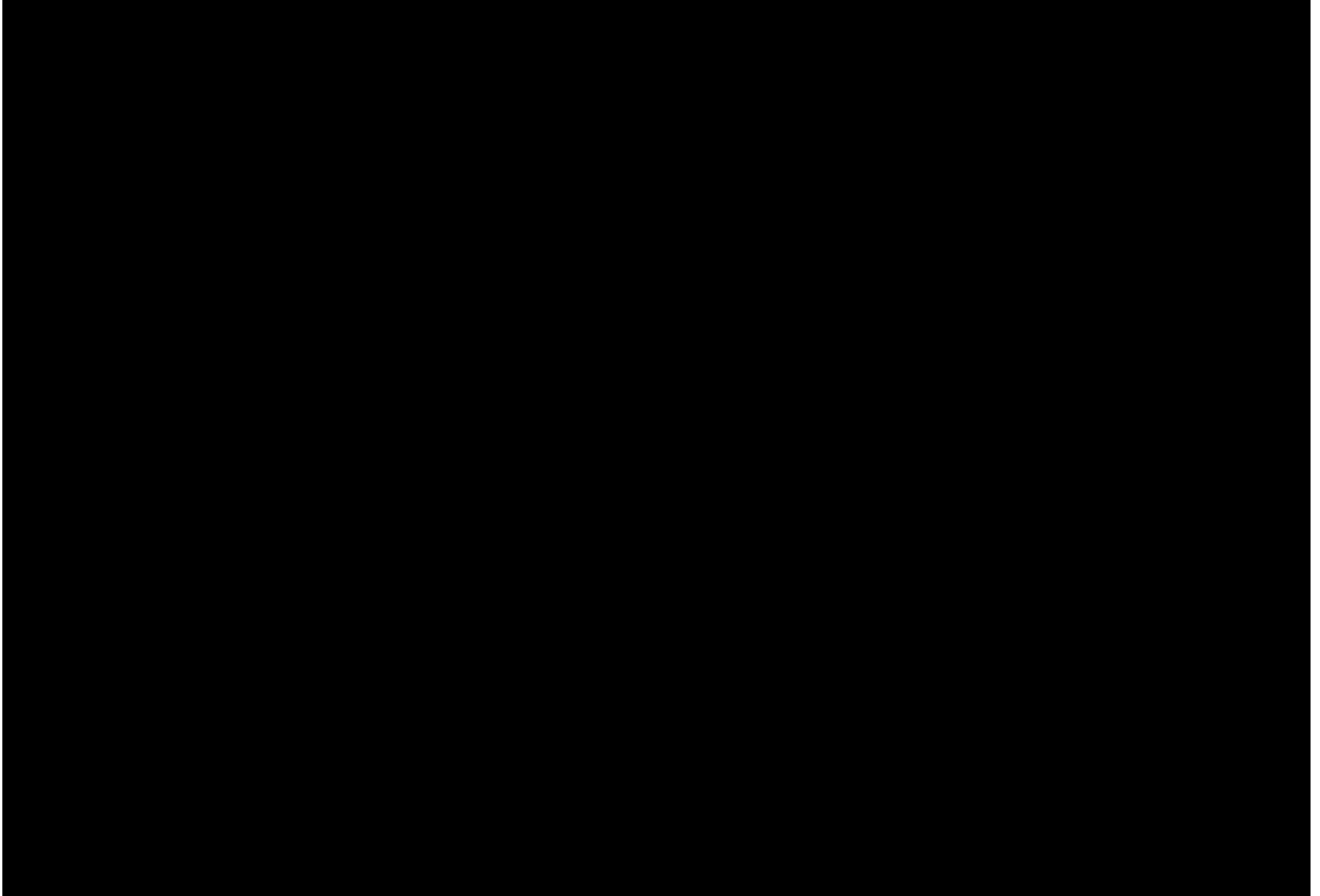
V. Boston Tea Party

- A. Parliament repealed all of the **Townshend Acts** except the tax on tea.
- B. To cut down smuggling, Parliament passed the **Tea Act** in 1773. Because the cheap tea would put colonial merchants out of business, colonists protested the Tea Act.
- C. December 16, 1773, Colonists dressed as Indians destroyed 340 chests of tea, dumping it in **Boston harbor**.

Boston Tea Party



Boston Tea Party



VI. The Intolerable Acts

A. The British government was furious about the **Boston Tea Party**. They demanded Massachusetts pay for the tea. The colony refused.

B. Parliament passed the *Coercive Acts*- called **the Intolerable Acts** in America.

1. Closed Boston harbor
2. Disbanded Massachusetts legislature.

3. Royal officers accused of crimes would be tried in England, not America.

4. Quartering Act.

C. Britain hoped the **Intolerable Acts** would control the colonies but it just made the people more angry and began to unite the colonies to assist Massachusetts.

Intolerable Acts

