CONFLICT IN THE COLONIES

Boston Tea Party
Tar and Feathering
THE TEA ACT

- The Boycott on British goods created a surplus of tea for the British East India Company (Britain’s official tea company)
- Needed to sell off 17 million pounds of tea that was sitting in its London warehouses.
- Tea Act lowered the price of the tea, that even with the tax added onto the price, it was still cheaper any other tea (including the smuggled Dutch tea)
- Tea Act gave the British East India Company a monopoly, or complete control over tea sales in the colonies.
- BEIC chose which colonial merchants could sell tea.
- Colonists saw the Tea Act as another attempt to tax them without consent.
TENSION IN BOSTON

- Angry protesters kept the BEIC ships from unloading their cargo in American ports.
- Ships were turned around without being allowed to unload their cargo.
- In Boston, the governor ordered the British navy to block the exit from Boston Harbor until the ships unloaded their tea.
BOSTON TEA PARTY

- December 16, 1773
- Sons of Liberty
- About 50 men dressed as Mohawk Indians boarded three ships loaded with tea.
- About 90,000 pounds of tea was dumped into the sea (342 cases) in three hours.
- Nothing else on the ships was touched.
PUNISHMENT FOR THE BOSTON TEA PARTY

- The Intolerable Acts
- Four laws in one act:
  - 1. closed the port of Boston
  - 2. increased the power of the governor
  - 3. abolished the upper house of the Massachusetts legislature
  - 4. cut the powers of the town meetings

- The Intolerable Acts did hurt the people of Boston, but it also helped the colonies join together as a country instead of individual colonies.
TAR AND FEATHERING

- Protesters of the British Acts, especially the Tea Act resorted to tar and feathering individuals, mostly tax collectors.

- Tar needs to be super heated in order to be liquefied

- Tar is also sticky, so dumping feathers on an individual who is tarred adds insult to the already injured.