

Name:

*Directions: Below are two documents that relate to democracy in Colonial America. Your goal is to determine how the following documents help you answer the question **how was democracy a work in progress in colonial times**. You must first use your close reading skills to annotate the primary sources and then fill in the attached APPARTS sheets, one for each document. Remember that you will be asked to revise your DBQ from the beginning of the year next week that dealt with this exact question.*

A PLEA FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

By Roger Williams

Roger Williams was a religious leader and the founder of Rhode Island. He was originally a member of the Massachusetts Colony and had called into question the structure of the colonial government and practices like taking Indian Land. In 1635 he was banished from The Massachusetts Colony. In 1644 while in England, Roger Williams wrote the following opinions on colonial governments.

So that magistrates, as magistrates, have no power of setting up the form of church government, electing church officers, punishing with church censures, but to see that the church does her duty herein. And on the other side, the churches as churches, have no power (though as members of the commonweal they may have power) of erecting or altering forms of civil government, electing of civil officers, inflicting civil punishments (no not on persons excommunicate) as by deposing magistrates from their civil authority, or withdrawing the hearts of the people against them, to their laws, no more than to discharge wives, or children, or servants, from due obedience to their husbands, parents, or masters; or by taking up arms against their magistrates, though he persecute them for conscience: for though members of churches who are public officers also of the civil state may suppress by force the violence of usurpers, as Iehoiada did Athaliah, yet this they do not as members of the church but as officers of the civil state.

...But from this grant I infer (as before hath been touched) that the sovereign, original, and foundation of civil power lies in the people (whom they must needs mean by the civil power distinct from the government set up). And, if so, that a people may erect and establish what form of government seems to them most meet for their civil condition; it is evident that such governments as are by them erected and established have no more power, nor for no longer time, than the civil power or people consenting and agreeing shall betrust them with. This is clear not only in reason but in the experience of all commonweals, where the people are not deprived of their natural freedom by the power of tyrants

VIRGINIA COLONIAL SLAVE LAWS

Below is a selection of slave laws passed by the colonial government of Virginia between 1660 and 1705. Starting in 1660 the slave population began to grow rapidly every year in Virginia and other southern colonies.

1662: WHEREAS some doubts have arisen whether children got by any Englishman upon a negro woman should be slave or free, Be it therefore enacted and declared by this present grand assembly, that all children born in this country shall be held bond or free only according to the condition of the mother, And that if any Christian shall commit fornication with a negro man or woman, he or she so offending shall pay double the fines imposed by the former act.

1680: General Assembly passes "An act for preventing Negroes' Insurrections": "Whereas the frequent meeting of considerable numbers of Negroe slaves under pretence of feasts and burials is judged of dangerous consequence . . . it shall not be lawful for any Negroe or other slave to carry or arm himself with any club, staff, gun, sword, or any other weapon of defense or offense, not to go or depart from his master's ground without a certificate from his master . . . and such permission not to be granted but upon particular and necessary operations; and every Negroe or slave so offending not having a certificate . . . [will receive] twenty lashes on his bare back well laid. . . . If any Negroe or other slave shall absent himself from his master's service and lie hid and lurking in obscure places . . . it shall be lawful . . . to kill the said Negroe or slave."

1705: The Virginia General Assembly declared: And be it further enacted, That no minister of the church of England, or other minister, or person whatsoever, within this colony and dominion, shall hereafter wittingly presume to marry a white man with a negro or mulatto woman; or to marry a white woman with a negro or mulatto man, upon pain of forfeiting and paying, for every such marriage the sum of ten thousand pounds of tobacco; one half to our sovereign lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, for and towards the support of the government, and the contingent charges thereof; and the other half to the informer

APPARTS ANALYSIS CHART

APPARTS Questions	Answer and Evidence
A uthor: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who is the author?	
P lace and Time: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• When and where was this source produced?	
P rior Knowledge: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What else was going on?	
A udience: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who was the source created for?	
R eason: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the purpose?	
T he Main Idea: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is this about? (Single sentence)	
S ignificance: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why is this important?	

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