

Views of Revolution

The American Revolution is seen as being different from other revolutions. It is viewed as a revolution of ideas by reasonable men. Those that have studied this revolution would disagree. So, how do we get this idea of reasonable men sitting around and discussing their complaints? Art is one way in that it sets a mood and consciousness through the images viewed.



Signing of Declaration of Independence – John Trumbull

Take for example John Trumbull's *Declaration of Independence*. It shows a story of the discussion of taking the action of rebellion, with a room full of men coming together on this day to sign a document that will change their lives. They sit quietly while those that agree to take this dangerous step of revolution sign the document.



Liberty Leading the People – Eugene Delacroix

The French, on the other hand, have a different view of revolution. Their revolutions are about the passion of class conflict, of people that take action into their own hands. The French go to the barricades to resist government actions. D.H.Coop is a retired fire/paramedic and retired teacher having taught IB and AP World History 30 years. He continues to substitute, tutor and consult. www.HistoryDepot.com