Boston Tea Party Podcast
Welcome to History 110 Podcast. My name is Stephen McKinney and during this podcast I will talk you through the Boston Tea Party and the events that took place during this significant time that caused America to break its ties from England and how it led to the American Revolution. The Tea Party was one of the main events that were the catalyst that led to the American Revolution.

The Boston Tea Party was a resistance movement by the colonists of America against England and the tea act. The Tea Act was passed by England in 1773. The colonist thought the passing of this act violated their rights; they felt they should not be represented by the British Parliament, but by local representatives. Using the phrase “no taxation without representation” the colonists preformed a non-violent political protest against England. According to (ushistory.org), “radical townspeople stormed the ships and tossed 342 chests of tea into the water. Disguised as Native Americans, the offenders could not be identified”.

The reason England started to tax tea on the colonists was because they had just gotten out of the war for nine years (1754-1763) in the French and Indian War. Due to the long war, Brittan’s national debt doubled. In order to pay off this debt, they imposed taxes on the colonies. Many taxes were placed upon common everyday items such as stamps, sugar, and tea. This taxation led to the start of the resistance because the colonists wanted to defend their constitutional rights.
The colonists protested the acts because the colonies were not happy that England was taxing their tea and the fact that they were getting imposed by political officials who weren’t even in the country. There was an immediate resistance to the Tea Act. Once the Tea Act was passed there was a noticeable drop in sales. Colonies started to boycott the tea by not purchasing it and switching to coffee, which in turn led to an overstock of tea. Because the tea of East India Company was not being bought, it put the company into financial trouble. The boycott was not very successful, so colonist began to become more hands on. The Sons of Liberty, who was led by Samuel Adams dressed up as Indians and raided the East India Company's tea ship by boarding it and taking all the chests and throwing them into the Boston Harbor. This showed the British that the colonist were not going to put up with this unfair treatment any longer and were going to defend their rights.

Due to the fact that the English colonies were rebelling against British rule, Britain developed the Intolerable Acts of 1744. The Intolerable acts were a series of laws imposed by British Parliament. It closed down the Boston Harbor, reinstated English rule over Massachusetts, allowed for unfair movement of royal officials in order to receive a lesser punishment from trials, banned town meetings, and it allowed housing for British soldiers. Because of this act the colonies became enraged and saw it as a violation of their rights. The intolerable acts backfired on England. It was supposed to be used as a way to alienate Massachusetts from the other colonies but instead it brought the colonies together which in turn helped aid the formation of the first continental congress.

The Boston Tea Party led to the American Revolution because the colonist were not feeling justly represented in the British Parliament. Plus, with unfair treatment from being the “ruled”, the colonies saw it fit to break away from England, the oppressor. The only
way to do that was by breaking ties with England completely saying that they cannot run our country any longer and that England will no longer be able to impose laws upon the colonies.

The Boston Tea party is an example of the American Paradox because the colonist came to America to break away from all the harsh political treatment in Europe. Once the colonists started to establish the colonies, England began to tax the people of the new world. This is a complete contradiction of freedom and liberty and what the New World stood for. Therefore, leading the colonist to break away from England causing the American Revolution.
Works Cited:


