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### The Boston Tea Party: Revolt Against the Tea Act

Colonial anger with British rule was escalating. In 1773, the British announced another tax that angered the colonists even further. The British Parliament passed the Tea Act giving control of the entire tea business in America to only one company: the British East India Company. Tea, the colonists' favorite drink, would now arrive in the colonies on this company's ships. This company had the exclusive right to sell the tea using their own merchants and to collect taxes on the tea. Colonial merchants and shippers were now out of work (Reisinger 66). Colonial anger at the Tea Act exploded into one of the most important revolts leading to the American Revolution.

Protest by the colonists took place in several colonial cities and was loud and angry. For example, in Charlestown, South Carolina colonists unloaded tea but let it rot on the docks angering British Earl of Dartmouth who said in a letter to Lt. Governor Bull: "What passed at Charlestown...although not equal in criminality to the proceedings in other colonies can yet be considered in no other light than that of a most unwarrantable insult to the authority of this kingdom" (Lewis). In addition, colonial women in North Carolina burned their own tea supplies in public as a way of protest. This shows that colonial anger was growing. For example, in New York and Philadelphia, the East India Company tried to send in shipments of tea but colonists would not let the ships even land. In addition, an angry group in Boston, calling itself the Sons of Liberty, took the most serious action of all by staging the Boston Tea Party ( Resinger 67). This

shows that colonial protest spread to the largest colonial cities. As you can see, the colonists were really mad and were protesting in many ways.

**Example of Work Cited to be on last page of report:**

Lewis, J.D. "The Tea Act and its Consequences in the Carolinas." *Carolana*. 2007. Web. 15 January 2012. <[http://www.carolana.com/NC/Royal\\_Colony/tea\\_act.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Royal_Colony/tea_act.html)>.

Risinger, C. F. *Creating america - california edition, a history of the united states*. McDougal Littell/Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Print.