

John Adams (1776)

...For 10 years, King George
and his parliament
have gulled, culled and diddled these
colonies with their illegal taxes.
They have stopped our trade,
seized our ships,
blockaded our ports,
burned our towns,
and spilled our blood...
.....

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of happiness". "Whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute new government".

-Thomas Jefferson

"I am well aware of the toil and blood and treasure it will cost us to maintain this declaration, and support and defend these states. Yet through all the gloom I see the rays of ravishing light and glory. I can see that the end is worth all the means. This is our day of deliverance." - **John Adams**

"There, I guess King George will be able to read that." - **John Hancock**

"We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately"- **Benjamin Franklin**

"And for the support of this Declaration... we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor" -**Robert Livingston**

"That these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown; and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved." - **Richard Henry Lee**