

DUELING DEFINITIONS



Quote 1

“There is nothing more common than to confound the terms of the American revolution with those of the late American war. The American war is over; but this is far from being the case with the American Revolution. On the contrary, nothing but the first act of the great drama is closed.”

Benjamin Rush

Address to the People of the United States, January 1787

What is Benjamin Rush saying here?

Do you agree or disagree? Why or why not?

Quote 2

“But what do we mean by the American Revolution? Do we mean the American War? The Revolution was effected before the War commenced. The Revolution was in the Minds and Hearts of the People; A change in their Religious Sentiments of their Duties and Obligations...

There were others, who thought less about Religion and Conscience, but had certain habitual Sentiments of Allegiance And Loyalty derived from their Education; but believing Allegiance and Protection to be reciprocal, when Protection was withdrawn, they thought Allegiance was dissolved.

Another Alteration was common to all. The People of America had been educated in an habitual Affection for England as their Mother-Country...But when then found her a cruel Beldam... it is no Wonder if their filial Affections ceased and were changed into Indignation and horror.

This radical change in the principles, opinions, sentiments, and affections of the people, was the real American Revolution.”

John Adams

Letter to Hezekiah Niles, 13 February 1818

What is John Adams saying here?

Do you agree or disagree? Why or why not?
