

TEACHER'S GUIDE

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MISSION 1: "For Crown or Colony?"

Boston Gazette, Ladies' Agreement against Drinking Foreign Tea, 1770

Edes & Gill's Gazette regularly printed notices, such as this one, announcing a pledge by the ladies of Boston against drinking foreign (British) tea. For women, who could not vote or hold office, non-consumption campaigns were a way to participate in colonial politics; many calling themselves "Daughters of Liberty" publicly gave up drinking tea and began spinning their own yarn to avoid buying goods imported from Britain.

The following is a Copy of the Agreement of the young Ladies of this Town, against drinking foreign TEA.

Boston, February 12, 1770.

We the Daughters of those Patriots who have and now do appear for the public Interest; and in that principally for us their Posterity, We as such do with Pleasure engage with them in denying ourselves the drinking of Foreign Tea, in hopes to frustrate a Plan that tends to deprive the whole Community of their all that is valuable in Life.

To the above Agreement 126 young Ladies have already signed.

In addition to the List of the Mistresses of Families who sign'd the Agreement against drinking foreign Tea, inserted in our last, 110 have been added the Week past.

Source: *Boston Gazette*, February 19, 1770