

JOHN LOCKE AND THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Directions: As a whole class, review each excerpt from the Declaration of Independence. Summarize the excerpt in your own words and then determine how John Locke influenced the excerpt from the Declaration of Independence.

Excerpt from the Declaration of Independence	Summary of excerpt in your own words	Connection to the ideas of John Locke
<i>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.</i>		
<i>Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed</i>		
<i>...whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it...</i>		
<i>A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.</i>		

The Impact of John Locke on the Founding Fathers

President John Quincy Adams once stated that: "The Declaration of Independence was founded upon one and the same theory of government: the writings of Locke." Based on this statement, how would you summarize the impact of John Locke on the Founding Fathers?