

Guide ~ Source C (John Hammond pamphlet)

Title of your primary source: ***The Two Fruitful Sisters Virginia and Maryland: Their Present Condition, Impartially Stated and Related***

Type of source & date: **pamphlet, 1656**

Author/creator: **John Hammond**

What do you know about the creator of this source?

He was a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, which means he was in the upper economic and social class in Virginia.

What information does this source give you about the living conditions of servants or what it was like to be an indentured servant in the colonies?

- **when servants complete their term of indenture, they usually receive a year's provision of corn, two sets of clothes, tools and land**
- **servants' work is not as hard or as long as farmers or artisans in England**
 - **little or no work in winter**
 - **no work before sunrise or after sunset**
 - **they rest during the hottest time of summer days**
 - **they have off Saturday afternoons, Sundays & holidays**
- **most women do housework & dairy work, not work in the fields**
 - **some women, however, are put to work in the fields**
- **servants have an opportunity to save up some money for themselves even while they are servants, by working extra in their own plots of land or raising some livestock**
- **servants have suitable lodging, not "on boards, or by the fireside" as has been reported by others**
- **if a servant doesn't have his contract written and signed, it is meaningless**

Does this source present a **positive**, **negative**, or **neutral** view of indentured servitude? Explain why?

- **encourage students to give their views of this and ask them to explain them/provide support**
- **positive**
 - **opportunities for servants**
 - **servants don't work as hard as many people report**