

Title: What is Persecution?

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Key Words: persecution

Grade Level: 6th

Time Allotted – 90 minutes

Lesson Overview	This lesson covers the definition of persecution, some types of persecution, and takes a look at why people choose to persecute others. This lesson provides a foundation to better analyze why religious groups, such as Separatists and Quakers, crossed the Atlantic to colonize North America.
Guiding Question(s)	What is persecution? Why do people persecute?

Learning Objectives: By the end of this lesson students will be able to:

- Define “persecution”
- Identify acts of persecution
- Discuss differences between persecution and punishment
- Identify why groups persecute others

Standards of Learning & Essential Historical Skills Taught:

USI.5a- The student will demonstrate knowledge of the factors that shaped colonial America by a) describing the religious and economic events and conditions that led to the colonization of America. (Students are required to know that Separatists colonized Plymouth to escape religious persecution and Quakers settled Pennsylvania for religious freedom.)

Assessment Tool(s) Students will be assessed through two “opinion/support” worksheets and an exit question.

Materials/Resources

Sources:

Sources are embedded and linked in the PowerPoint.

Materials:

- Teacher guide
- PowerPoint
- Bell Ringer Quiz
- “Is it or Isn’t It?” Opinion sheets
- “What it is What it isn’t” example sheets
- “Why ‘O Why” Opinion sheets
- “Tell Me Why?” example sheets
- Exit slip question found at the bottom of the “Why “O Why” Opinion sheets

Modifications: NOTE: The bell ringer quiz is graphic. It is only to be used with a group that can handle the information. There are also some graphic slides on the PowerPoint.

Instructional Procedures/Process : There is a PowerPoint presentation which provides the map through which the lesson can be taught. A Teaching Guide is also provided.

- 1)** Have the students take the “bell ringer” quiz. Pass out the Bell Ringer quiz to each student. Allow ~ 5 minutes for each student to complete the quiz. Have them turn the quiz over. The quiz will be used in the closure of the lesson.
- 2)** Begin PowerPoint with slide one “What is going on here?” Allow for study of the picture then ask for volunteers to guess. (Teacher guide will provide talking points)
- 3)** Slide 2 – the students see that it is a woman is being whipped.
- 4)** Slide 3 “persecution: what is it?” Allow for student responses.
- 5)** Slide 4 – discuss the definition of persecution
- 6)** Pass out the “Is It or Isn’t It?” opinion sheets – pass out the “What it is What it Isn’t” example sheets and have the students study them and determine whether what is being described is persecution or not. They also must support their claim.
- 7)** Go over each example and discuss. (See Teacher Guide for talking points)
- 8)** Reasons why people persecute: Slide 5 (See Teacher Guide)
 - Slide 6 and 7 – Power and Control
 - Slide 8 and 9 – Fear
 - Slide 10 and 11 – Revenge and Hate
- 9)** Pass out the “Why ‘o Why?” opinion sheets. “Tell Me Why!” sheets. Each passage describes an example of persecution. The students must read the passages and try to determine the reason for the persecution: Power and Control, Fear, Revenge and Hate. (See Teacher Guide)
- 10)** Go over the examples and discuss. (See Teacher Guide)
- 11)** Close out the lesson with an exit slip. The students must write what the word “persecution” means.

Closure – Revisit the bell ringer quizzes. Ask the students if they would like to make any changes to their answers. Go over the quiz – each example took place at some point in 16th or 17th century

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England. This will also help lead into the next lesson. Have them answer the exit question on the “Tell Me Why?” sheets. Collect sheets to assess their answers.