



## Thomas Paine: "Common Sense"

Paine

..., and as the good people of this country are grievously oppressed by the outrageously combination [of the king and Parliament], they have an undoubted privilege to inquire

into the pretensions of both, and equally to reject the usurpation of either...

actions/motives

illegal seizure  
of power

The cause of America is in a great measure the cause of all mankind. Many circumstances hath, and will arise, which are not local, but universal, and through which the principles of all Lovers of Mankind are affected, and...is the Concern of every Man to whom Nature hath given the Power of feeling...

But Britain is the parent country, say some. Then the more shame upon her conduct. Even brutes do not devour their young, nor savages make war upon their families...This new World hath been the asylum for the persecuted lovers of civil and religious liberty from EVERY PART of Europe. [To refuge tormented America] have they fled, not from the tender embraces of the mother [Britain], but from the cruelty of the monster; and it is so far true of England, that the same tyranny which drove the first emigrants from home, pursues their descendants still...

people who  
move from their  
country

O ye that love mankind! Ye that dare oppose, not only the tyranny, but the tyrant, stand forth! Every spot of the old world is overrun with oppression. Freedom hath been hunted round the globe. Asia, and Africa, have long expelled her. —Europe regards her like a stranger, and England hath given her warning to depart. O! receive the fugitive, and prepare in time an asylum for mankind."

force out

runaway