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**Grade level:** 8

**Primary Source Citation:** “*The Bostonians Paying the Excise-Man, or Tarring and Feathering*”, 1774. British Cartoon Prints Collection (Library of Congress), <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2004673302/>.

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the editorial cartoon located at the above link while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

### **Level I: Description**

1. What are the men doing in the foreground?
2. What is happening on the ship in the background?

### **Level II: Interpretation**

1. What are some of the clues to tell the reader who the mob represents?
2. What are some clues to let the reader know who the victim is?
3. What are some clues that tell the reader what the conflict is about?

### **Level III: Analysis**

1. Do you believe the mob represents the overall feelings of the colonists? What feelings are being displayed?
2. What argument would you make to defend the actions of the mob?



The BOSTONIAN'S Buying the EXCISE-MAN, or TARRING & FEATHERING

Plate 1.

Engraved by Wm. L. Garrison, May 1830. Boston, Mass. (The Bostonian, 1830, Plate 1, p. 107.)

Engraving sold at the National Gallery, New York, in 1850. Reproduced by permission of the Trustees of the National Gallery, New York.

John W. Alden, 1850

July 1, 1850

1850-50

1850