Educational materials developed through the Baltimore County History Labs Program, a partnership between Baltimore County Public Schools and the UMBC Center for History Education.

RS#32 History Lab Document Log Answer Key

Overarching Question: Should the colonists have revolted against Great Britain?

Document Name: *Plain Truth*

Type of Document: *Primary Source—Pamphlet*

Date of Document: *March 1776*

Author of Document: *James Chalmers (Candidus)*

Author Information: *Loyalist from Eastern Shore of Maryland*

Intended Audience: *Colonists who read* Common Sense

Purpose for Writing: *Retort to* Common Sense

Does ***James Chalmers*** think the colonists should revolt against Great Britain?

Text Support
Row 1-He loves his country and freedom and will fight for his country. He thinks the country will be ruined if it breaks away from Great Britain.
Row 3- The British constitution is beautiful and without a king to control the people, the country would decline into a democracy which is poor. *Row 4-Greece and Rome are democracies and they have much war.*
Row 5-England was powerful enough to save us from France and will try as hard as they can to keep us from breaking away. *Row 6-If we stay with England, we will avoid a horrible war. If we break away, we won't be able to trade with other countries.*
Row 7-There will be horror and devastation if we try to break away from Great Britain. We should try to resolve our dispute with them instead.

Author's Perspective: *James Chalmers thinks his country will be ruined if the colonies try to break away from Great Britain. Democratic countries are wracked with war and they should stay with England to try to avoid war. They should try to resolve their dispute with Great Britain instead of trying to break away.*