



ANSWERS

This document marked the official separation of the 13 colonies from Great Britain. It established an American government and declared war against Great Britain. The document was written in order to help the Second Continental Congress to get help from other countries. It also documents America's reasons for separating from Great Britain by outlining how they had been mistreated.

It draws on ideas from the Enlightenment, especially John Locke. It put the political philosophical ideas of the time into real world practice.

God created all men as equals, and all men have the rights of life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness; it is the job of the government to protect these rights; if a government tries to keep these rights from the people, then the people have the right to overthrow the government and establish a new one.