**Society and Culture in Provincial America notes (p. 65-75)**

* The colonies became more English as they grew, but also moved apart from Britain in culture
* There was a much more diverse population in the colonies than in Britain
* Regional differences heavily affected societies
* *The Colonial Population*
  + After the pilgrims landed, the nonnative population grew rapidly
  + Most of the early English population of North America was not aristocratic
    - They were mainly laborers
    - There were some people who immigrated for religious or commercial reasons
  + Religious dissenters formed most of New England
  + ¾'s of the Chesapeake's population in the 1600's were indentured servants
  + Indentured Servitude
    - Is when (usually young) men and women bound themselves to masters voluntarily for a period of time in return for passage to America along with room and board when they arrived
    - ¼th of the indentured servants in the Chesapeake were women
      * This made it easy for them to find husbands, since they were greatly outnumbered by men
    - Convicts were sometimes forced into indentured servitude
    - Many young indentured men found themselves without anything after their indenturement was up, and traveled from place to place looking for work or rest
      * This happened the most in the Chesapeake
    - Families moved to more promising areas every few years was common
    - The flow of indentured servants into America becan to ebb in the 1670's
    - By the 1700's, the indentured servants that did come avoided the South and served in the Atlantic colonies
    - Landowners in the Chesapeake stopped liking indentured servitude and started to lean towards slavery
  + Birth and Death
    - By the 1700's, the population of non-Indians had grown to over 250,000, with ¼ of those being African
    - The New England population more than quadrupled from reproduction alone (rather than immigration) between 1650 and 1700
    - The life expectancy for both men and women in New England during this time was around 70, which was 10 years higher than in Britain
    - The mortality rate in the Chesapeake region was much higher during this time
    - Malaria and salt-contaminated water killed many in the Chesapeake
    - In the Chesapeake, 75% of the population was male and in New England, about 60% of the population was male
    - This ratio increased to about even by the 1800's, but started to become more equal by the late 1600's
  + Medicine in the Colonies
    - Childbirth had an extremely high mortality rate for both the women and the children
    - There was no understanding of sterilization or infection in the 1600's and 1700's
      * This caused many bacterial infections
    - Many women became midwifes with little knowledge of medicine
    - They assisted with childbirth but also urged patients to use herbal remedies
    - Male doctors felt threatened and tried unsuccessfully to drive women from the field
    - Most medicine was drived from the theory of “humoralism” from the second century physician Galen
    - The theory said that the body was governed by four “humors” in bodily fluids
      * Yellow bile (choler)
      * Black bile (melancholy)
      * Blood
      * Phlegm
    - Illness was supposedly from an imbalance of the humors
    - This was treated through bloodletting and laxatives, among other methods
  + Women and Families in the Chesapeake
    - The high ratio of men to women in the Chesapeake meant that few women stayed unmarried for long
    - The patriarchal familial structure of England was unabled to be kept, due to women having lots of power from their relative scarcity and high mortality rate
    - Over a third of marriages in the Chesapeake with the bride, an ex-indentured servant, already pregnant
    - Women who survived long enough had many children
    - The longest-lived had an average of eight children, approximately five of who died before adulthood
    - Women were often made widows wielding large amounts of power due to the large plantations or farms that they were left with when their husbands died
    - By the early 1700's in the Chesapeake, life expectancy was increasing, the sex ratio was becoming more equal, and indentured servitude was in decline
    - Patriarchal households were becoming more common (in the South)
  + Women and Families in New England
    - The mortality rate for both women and children in New England was far lower than in the Chesapeake
    - Women had far less control than in the Chesapeake since there were more of them and their fathers were often alive to arrange marriages
    - The women in New England had many children and often were caring to them long into their 60's if they lived that long
    - The premarital pregnancy rate was much lower in New England
    - Religious belief held far more sway in New England compared to the Chesapeake; the Puritan church was a powerful institution in the area
    - Puritanism placed a high value on the family
    - It also reinforced the idea of nearly absolute male authority and the weakness of women
  + The Beginnings of Slavery in British America
    - There was almost always a demand for black slaves
    - It took until the late 1600's until the slave trade came in full force to America, because the Portuguese slavers did not originally take a route that took them to America
    - The more slaves there were, the more horrible slavery became
    - The slaves were packed into dark, disgusting holds for the journey to America
    - They remained in the holds for weeks or months on the journey
    - Conditions varied from ship to ship, but all were horrible; on some ships, deaths along the way was part of the business model
    - In the mid 1690's, the slave trade began in earnest in America
    - In the Chesapeake, more slaves were being born than imported by 1700
    - The number of African slaves increased ten times from 1700 to 1760 to about 250,000
    - Originally it seemed that Africans who were imported would have status similar to indentured servants
    - Later, it became clear that they would be lifetime slaves and secondclass citizens
    - Slave codes began to be passed in the early 1700's to ensure fewer rights for Africans
  + Changing Sources of European Immigration
    - By the early 1700's the flow of English immigrants began to substantially decline
    - Other races' immigration continued and increased
    - Many Huguenots came, but soon afterward around 300,000 left