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The American Revolution came about through “spits and starts”; explain this process in the time period 1700-1775. Support this essay with laws, actions, and philosophies to explain how the groundwork of revolution was laid in the colonies.

The groundwork of the Revolution was laid in the colonies by laws, philosophies, actions, and also by the culture that differed between the North and the South.

Philosophy “sowed the seeds” of what would become qualities of America that few other countries provided. The Age of Enlightenment started off these beliefs, with Joseph Addison and John Locke becoming major influences, providing ideas of secularism, and rights of life, liberty, and property. These ideas stayed with the colonists all throughout the Revolution until they were solidified in our Constitution. Thoughts of Individual Representation and No Taxation without Representation were very much laid into the groundwork of the Revolution, despite the British’s claim of virtual representation. The ideas before and during the Revolution were deeply engrained in the groundwork of the Revolution as well as our country.

The French and Indian War kicked off thoughts of a Revolution, because the period of salutary neglect was over for the colonists. Britain was deeply in debt, and while the colonists were angry at having to pay new taxes, after the war, they were proud to be British. The Boston Massacre enraged colonists, but the Revolution came to a slow when the Townshend Act was

repealed the same day. The Boston Tea Party strengthened the Revolution, and was caused because the British didn't want the East India Trading Company to go bankrupt, which they were on the verge of anyways. While everyone was scared to take a stand against the British, the Sons of Liberty weren't, and after dumping the tea in the bay, a feeling of pride in the country swept over the city. Not to mention the Intolerable Acts that followed gave the colonists something else to be mad at the British for. Considering the many actions that fueled the fire of the Revolution, the groundwork would be the emotions of anger and hate the Colonists felt for the British.

The laws enacted upon the Colonies by Parliament seemed to go after the wrong people. For example, the Stamp Act went after newspapers, lawyers, and the Upper class. Lawyers are of course going to fight, considering they have the resources as well as the knowledge to protest. If the laws focused more on the lower class, the groundwork for the Revolution might not have even happened. The Intolerable Acts were punishment to the Colonies for the Boston Tea Party. The Massachusetts Legislature was closed, ports were closed, and the Colonists were required to pay back the wasted tea. The Quebec Act was also punishment, because it gave the priceless fishing area to the French as well as enlarged the boundaries for the French. If the laws had gone after a lower class of people, the groundwork wouldn't have been built in the same way. The Revolution would have come to in a slower way, if at all, because the lower class people wouldn't have the time, power, or money necessary to provide such political unrest.

The culture that differed based on the geography of the Colonies held back the future country from unity in the Revolution. The pockets of loyalist communities in the South were because of the ties they had with Britain. Their cash crops were sold to Britain, making them more tied to them economically; their Religion toward the East was Anglican, where the people would be more British in thinking whereas toward the west, there was more Baptism. The North

wanted an Industrial Revolution, and they were tired of only sending raw materials to Britain only to have them sold back in products for a higher price. Since the South and the North differed in everything from education to trading, it would have been hard for them to see eye to eye on key aspects of the Revolution, causing the pockets of loyalists.

In conclusion, the groundwork of the Revolution from 1700-1775 was caused by the laws, actions, philosophies, and culture differences of the colonies and Britain.