



Should Charles be put to death?

Aim:

To consider different views for what should be done with Charles following the Civil War

The story so far...

I can do it MYSELF!!



IN 1625 CHARLES I BECAME KING.
HE BELIEVED IN THE **DIVINE RIGHT OF KINGS**
(BELIEVING HE WAS A REPRESENTATIVE OF GOD)
SO DECIDED TO RULE **WITHOUT A PARLIAMENT.**

*We're overdoing it on
this home decor lark.*



HE HAD ALSO MARRIED A FRENCH **CATHOLIC** QUEEN
WHICH ANGERED PARLIAMENT, AS THEY WERE **PROTESTANTS**,
AND MANY **PURITANS** (VERY **STRICT** 'NO-FRILLS' PROTESTANTS)



HAVING NO PARLIAMENT TO PROVIDE HIM WITH **MONEY**,
THE KING INTRODUCED **NEW TAXES** WHICH PEOPLE **HATED.**

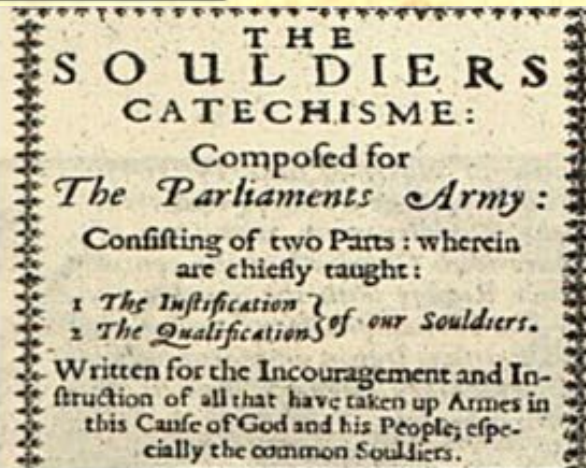
The story so far...



CHARLES STARTED TO HAVE MANY **ARGUMENTS** WITH PARLIAMENT. THEY TRIED TO PASS NEW LAWS TO **REDUCE THE KING'S POWERS** AND GIVE GREATER **CONTROL TO THEMSELVES**. PARLIAMENT WAS ALSO CONCERNED THE COUNTRY COULD BECOME **CATHOLIC** AGAIN.



A FEW MONTHS LATER, A **CIVIL WAR** BROKE OUT BETWEEN THE **ROUNDHEADS** (SUPPORTERS OF **PARLIAMENT** - MOSTLY FROM THE **SOUTH**) AND THE **CAVALIERS** (SUPPORTERS OF THE **KING** - MOSTLY FROM THE **NORTH**).



IN 1645 CROMWELL CREATED THE '**NEW MODEL ARMY**', A FIGHTING GROUP MADE UP, AND LED BY **EVERYDAY PEOPLE**, REGARDLESS OF HOW RICH OR ARISTOCRATIC THEY WERE.

On your sheet, you need to decide whether each box suggests Charles should be guilty, or whether it suggests he is innocent.

Choose 2 colours for your key

☐ Innocent

☐ Guilty

The King is a man of blood,
he started both wars

The people do not want to
kill their King

Some of Parliament want to
put the King back in power:
England needs a King

England cannot survive
without a King

There is no court that
can try a King

He was chosen by
God to be King he
cannot be killed

The King was to
blame for the war he
should die.

The victories of
Cromwell's armies show
that God was on his side

If the King's head is cut off
with the crown upon it...what
will happen? The country will
be lost without its King.

He fought against
Parliament and his own
people, the King must die.

As long as Charles is alive
there is a chance of
another war.

The King cannot be trusted after
the Second Civil War



Following Charles' capture, many MPs felt they couldn't trust him so they met at Parliament to discuss what to do with him. Out of the 286 MPs, 240 thought Charles should be given another chance!!!

However, when they next met, those 240 MPs were stopped from entering Parliament leaving only 46 MPs. This small group became known as the **Rump Parliament** and voted by 26 to put Charles on trial for treason.

SLIGHT WARNING – Quite emotional scenes

The king's execution & talking to his children 1 – 'Cromwell' movie

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k88K8AMVcgg>

The king's trial and execution 2 – The Devils Whore TV Show

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tqCFSg5xSw4>

The king's execution 3 – 'To Kill a king' movie

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hS0owFcVz40>

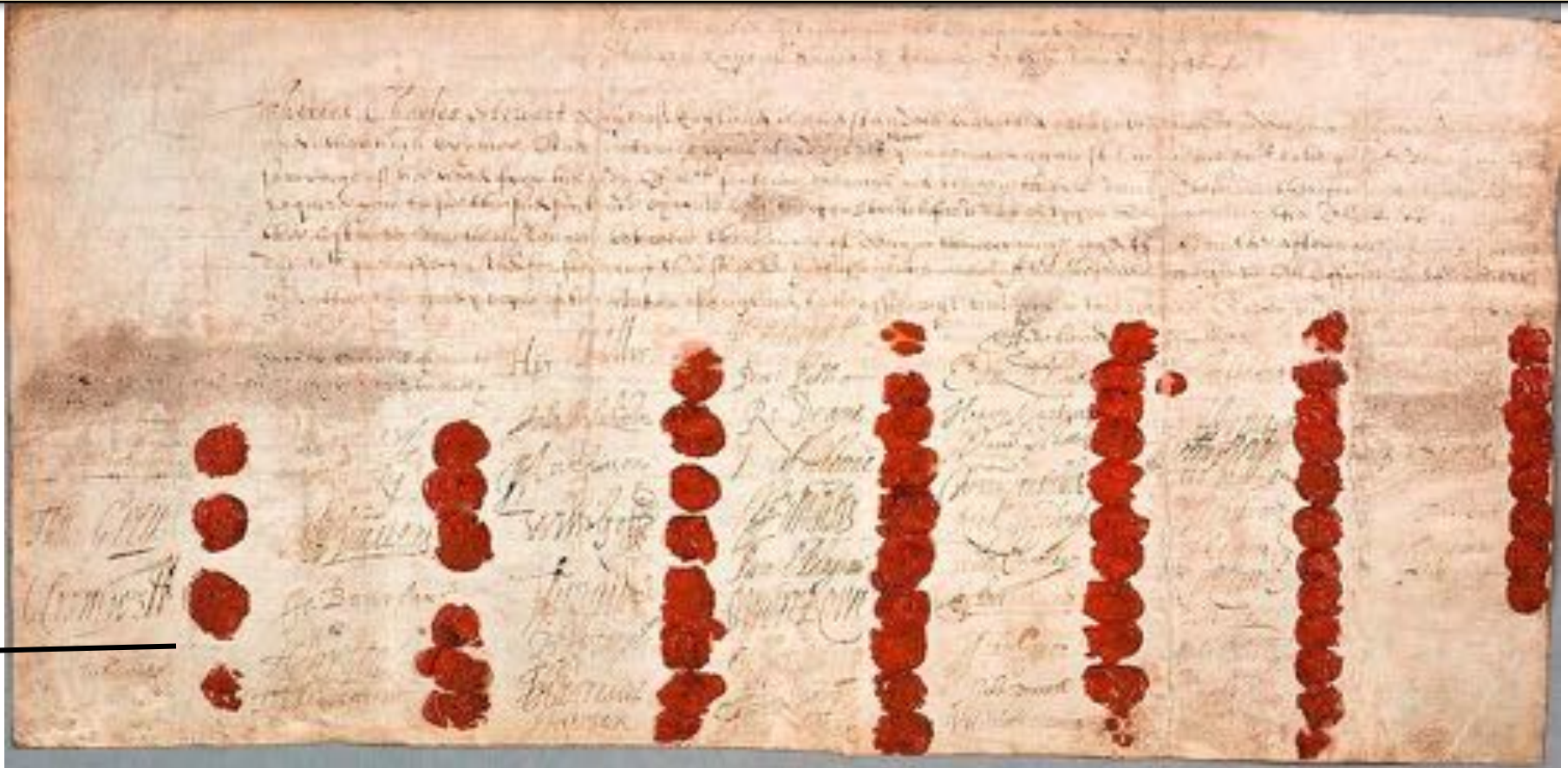


The death warrant of Charles 1

The black line shows Cromwell's signature.

40 men signed straight away but others had to be forced to sign it.

Following the Restoration of the monarchy in 1660, the Death Warrant was used to identify the commissioners who had signed it (the '**regicides**') and prosecute them for **treason**. Even the signatories, who had died, including Cromwell, were dug up and their bodies hanged.





'I never did begin the war with Parliament... They began war upon me... if anybody will look at the dates of what happened... they will see clearly that they began these unhappy troubles, not I... therefore I tell you I am the **martyr** of the people'

'I do not fear death! I go from a corrupt crown to an incorruptible crown'

King Charles I on the scaffold before his execution

Do these clips support what we now know about the trial of Charles and therefore are they useful sources?



30th January 1649



What can we see in this painting from c.1649?

What was left following 30th January 1649?...

England became a **Republic** and Oliver Cromwell became the Lord Protector of England.



Was England really turned upside down?...