

Chapter 4

Why did people come to live in the English Colonies?

Economic Reason:

Enclosure Movement

- Farmland was closed off to raise sheep.
- Peasant farmers became landless.
- Cities became crowded and unlivable.
- Out of desperation, many sought opportunity in America.

Religious Reason:

Church of England or Anglican Church

- King creates official religion for all (the Church of England)
- Many people dissented (disagreed)
(examples of dissenters are Puritans and Separatists)
- Dissenters were severely persecuted (belongings were taken, they were put in jail or put to death)
- Dissenters sought religious freedom in America.

Political Reason:

Divine Right of Kings

- Made the kings too powerful.
- James I and Charles I ignored Parliament - (law-making body in England)
United States Congress = Parliament
- Unfair taxes and no religious toleration
- People went to America to escape tyranny – (abuse of power)
Tyranny = bullying