

ESSAY

"Let America Eat Cake"

The day that the Federal Government implements a tax to high sugar, high fat content foods will be the day a fist bangs from inside the walls of a coffin at Mount Vernon. If these taxes are administered the United States will be putting to shame George Washington's golden rule for government to be as small as possible. The taxation of goods such as ice cream, sodas, and tobacco products is exorbitant, unjustified, and diminishes the personal rights of America's citizens.

The revolutionaries of our past fought to eliminate government's stronghold, now it seems the public is frightened into allowing more unauthorized control. Last year a ban on smoking in public restaurants was implemented in Ohio. The ban diminished businesses and the right of a smoker to smoke. A tax to high sugar, high fat foods hurts those companies staggeringly.

New York's governor, David A. Paterson, believes that a tax on non-diet sodas is the cure to obesity. The motives for his taxation are not clearly stated. If all non-diet soda is taxed, then Paterson must believe that all citizens of New York are obese and deserve to be taxed. Clearly, everyone living in New York is not obese therefore should not be taxed. Paterson's tax and previous tobacco taxes, are just disguises for the creation of new revenue which should be raised by other means. Health problems are solved by family doctors, not the Federal Government.

The limitations of American citizens has gone too far. Tobacco and food taxes won't be the end of the restrictions unless people stand up for freedom by becoming informed and taking action of their views. In regards to taxing Americans for sugary and fatty foods, Marie Antoinette said it best when she said, "Let them eat cake."