

**Connecticut State Department of Education
Teaching Native American Studies
Mashantucket (Western) Pequot Tribal Nation
Pequot War Lessons - Secondary
Lesson 4: The Pequot War (Structured Academic Controversy, Part 1)
Audio Clip 1 Transcript**

The English would not have stopped under any circumstances. The English at this time in history had built up quite the reputation and going in, attacking and colonizing and gathering more land for the crown. This was not a new habit for the English. It was something really common throughout history. So the English have displayed this behavior for hundreds of years, and it wasn't going to stop.

The English and the peak had very different point of views and perspectives, especially when it came to religion. Lifeways and traditional views on land ownership and how to get the full potential from the land. And that was something that was huge for us. Also coming from different societies, we're living in a trade economy where the English were coming from a monetary society where they were relying on money to survive.

Next, we have, after the English started to take slaves, women, children, elders, political leaders of Pequot, people being killed. We had no choice but to defend ourselves against the English and retaliate. We couldn't let these things just go by the wayside. Money and greed are big SLA fronts for war, and this situation had both of those things heavily involved with the beaver free trade really being the first gold rush of North America and the Connecticut River being a big port of trade for beaver furs, with the Dutch first having a post allowed by the peak watch.

And as the English arrived, they received a post as well. And that caused hostilities between not only the English and the Piqua, but the Piqua and the Dutch and the Dutch and the English. And it created a lot of miscommunications. The Dutch captured a of him and demanded ransom and killed our station. And in return Pequot people retaliated.

And from that we killed Captain Johnstone, an Englishman. So it was all a very confusing time. And these parties interacting and relying on money and wanting more power definitely helped lead to this war to be quite people would not allow outsiders to come and attack our homelands and change our ways of life. Things we've been doing for thousands of years.

So I believe war would be inevitable. Prior to the war, English papers would put out propaganda of indigenous people displaying them with horns, fangs and tails. So the narrative was already out there that our people were savages and less than human. So the English did not respect the Pequod. So war was inevitable.