

ACTIVISM: ACTIVITY 2

Materials you will need:

- Activity 2 sheet
- spare paper and pen or pencil
- your profiles of one abolitionist and one pro-slavery figure

Activism image card:

- 8 'Slavery/Freedom',
pro-slavery propaganda
print, 1832

Time:

30 mins

What were the arguments and counter- arguments around slavery?

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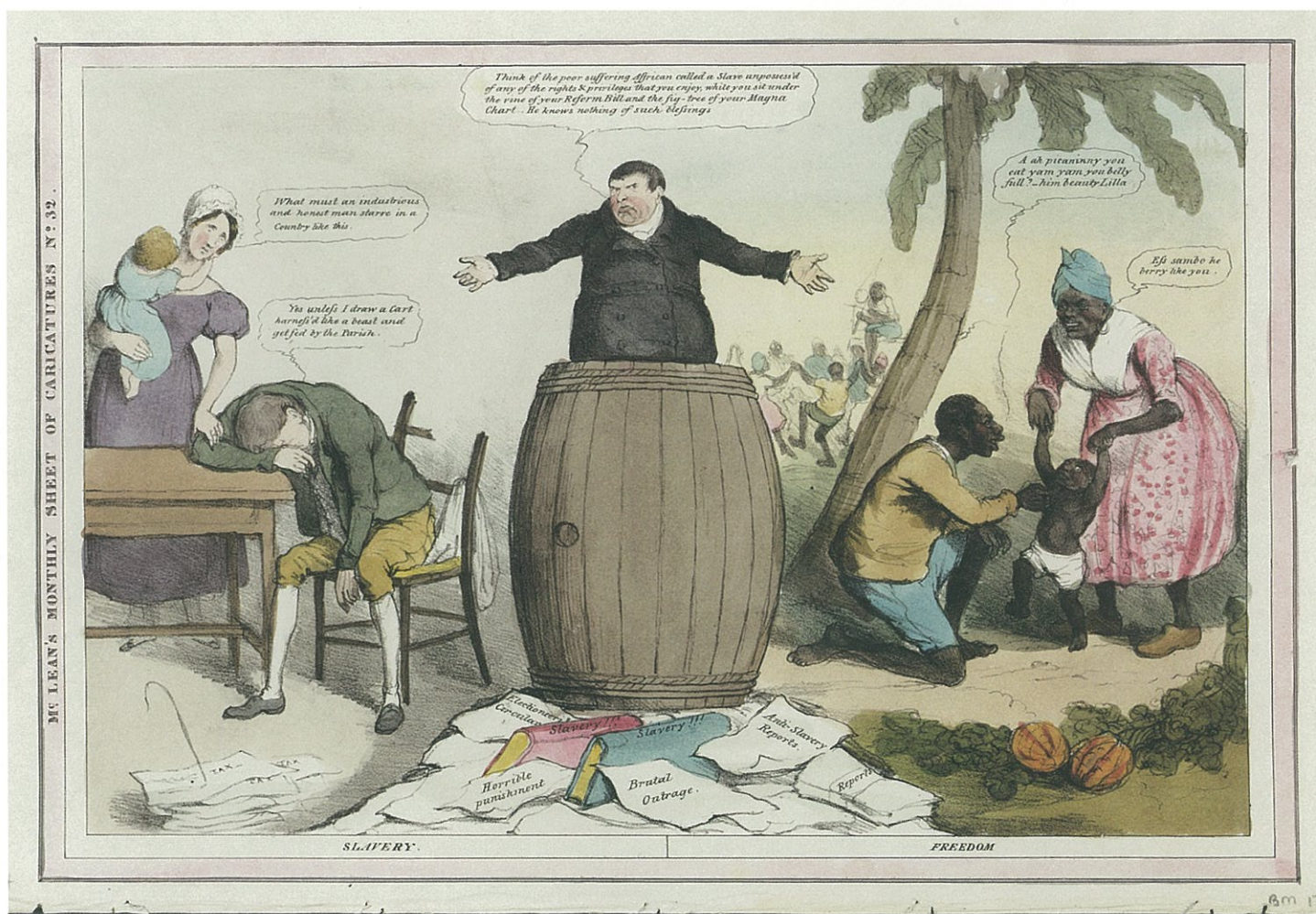
- **Look at image card:**

8 'Slavery/Freedom', pro-slavery propaganda print, 1832.

This image criticizes the anti-slavery movement.

- **In your group, decide on three probing interview questions for the pro-slavery and anti-slavery characters and record these on your blank paper.** (10mins)
- **Take it in turns to be in the 'hot seat' to be interviewed by the rest of your group as one of your researched characters using the three questions. Start with a figure who is pro slavery followed by one who is against it and so on. Try to stay in character and imagine what your answers would really be if you were that historical character. Use the image cards as visual aids to help you get your argument or counter-argument across.**
- **Record the name of each character and the answers they give to each question.** (20 mins)
- **Record your answers to these questions:**
 - Q1** Which question do you think was most effective? Why?
(Save this question to ask when back in the whole-class group hot-seating activity at the end of the lesson.)
 - Q2** Which person was most convincing and why?
 - Q3** What devices did they use to argue their case?
 - Q4** What else influenced their argument?

ACTIVISM: IMAGE 8 'SLAVERY/FREEDOM', PRO-SLAVERY PROPAGANDA PRINT, 1832



ACTIVISM: IMAGE 8

'SLAVERY/FREEDOM', PRO-SLAVERY PROPAGANDA PRINT, 1832

This print appears to criticize the anti-slavery movement. The man in the centre is making a speech about slavery, but the print seems to suggest that the end of slavery will have a bad effect on ordinary working people in Britain. The aim of the print is to make people think first and foremost about Britain's wealth at home and not to be concerned that it may depend on the ill-treatment and enslavement of others. The people who supported slavery put out their own propaganda and angrily challenged the abolitionists. The abolitionists therefore had to be prepared for all the pro-slavery arguments so that they could convince people that ending slavery was the right thing to do.

Note for teachers: transcription of speech bubbles (from left to right)

Woman standing holding child: 'What must an industrious and honest man starve in country like this.'

Man seated: 'Yes unless I draw a cart harnessed like a beast and get fed by the Parish.'

Man standing in a barrel: 'Think of the poor suffering Affrican [sic] called a slave unpossess'd [sic] of any of the rights & privileges that you enjoy, while you sit under the vine of your Reform Bill and the fig-tree of your Magna Chart. He knows nothing of such blessings.'

Man kneeling: 'A ah picaninny [small child] you can eat yam yam you belly full? him beauty Lilla.'

Woman helping child to stand: 'Ess [sic] sambo he berry [very] like you.'

Sheets scattered around the bottom of the image read (from left to right):
Tax; Election Circular; Horrible punishment; Slavery; Brutal Outrage; Anti-Slavery Reports; Reports.

Please see Glossary on www.understandingslavery.com/citizen