

# Anti-Slavery Abolitionist Arguments

Describe arguments  
in favour of the  
slave trade continuing

Describe ways that  
abolitionists  
campaigned for  
freedom





Although some people in Britain opposed slavery, many other people wanted to see it continue. They believe it benefitted the country and so should not be abolished.





Many people in Britain **supported** the slave trade

This included merchants and politicians in **cities** which relied on money raised.

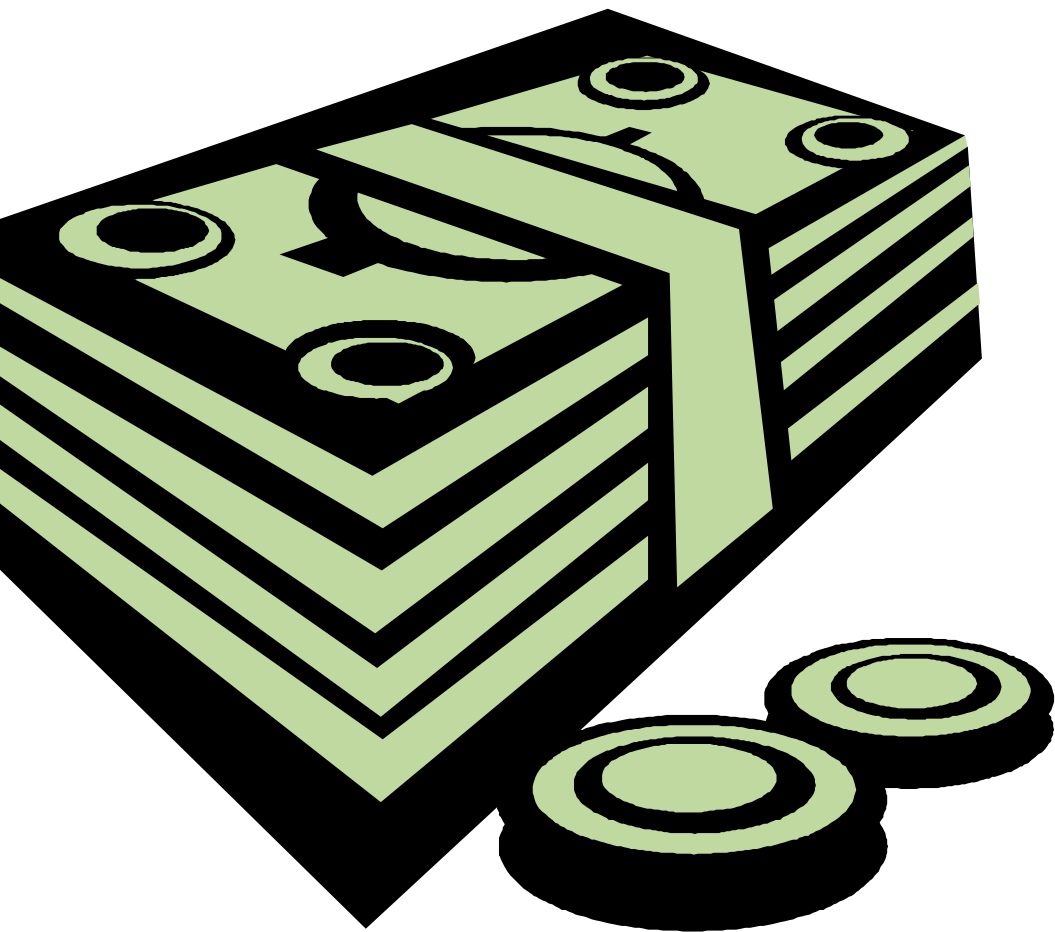
It also included the King, British government and the Anglican Church.

Just like the abolition movement, those in favour of slavery had their own arguments.

These arguments centred around money and also the power anti-abolitionists felt that slavery gave Britain.







## Economic arguments

Pro-slavery campaigners said that slavery had helped make a lot of money for Britain. Abolishing it would lose this

They also pointed out that Britain received a lot of tax money from the trade.

They also argued that without slavery the sugar trade would collapse, meaning no sugar.

They pointed that thousands of Britons had jobs which depended on slavery and they could be unemployed without it.



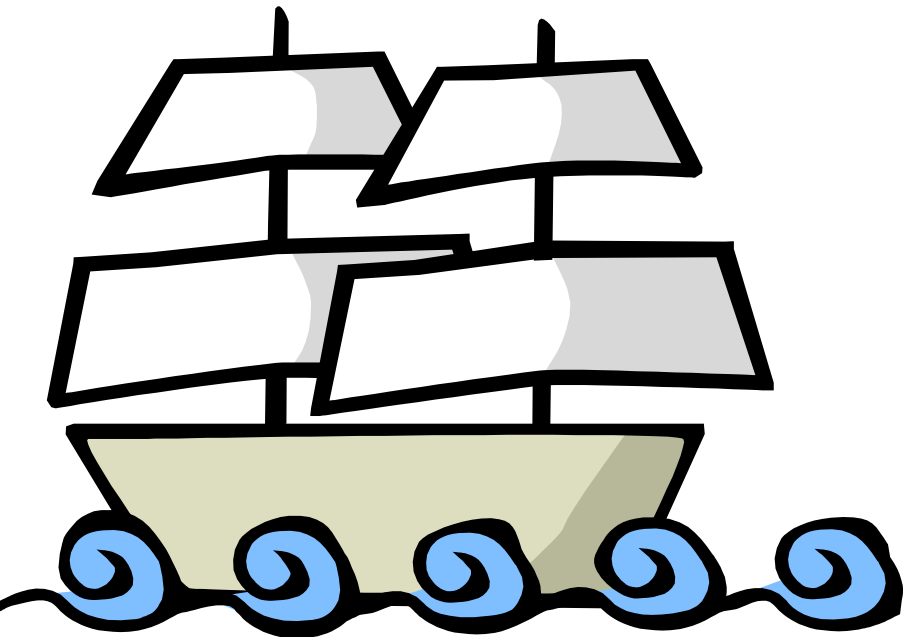




## Military arguments

Britain had a strong military because of the money slave made and the expertise it gave in shipbuilding.

Britain also needed slave money to fund the wars with France (from 1792).



## Moral arguments

Anti-abolitionists also argued that Africans were inferior, meaning slavery was justified in God's eyes.

They also claimed that slaves were happier living as Christians and were well treated.







Those in favour of slavery **campaigned** in similar way to the abolition movement.

They set up **organisations** oppose the end of slavery.

They also sent petitions to parliament and gained support from **MPs** (sometimes through **bribes**).

Groups were set up in **Africa** and the **Caribbean** to argue for the continuation of slavery.

They sent **letters** to newspapers and also suggested that British workers would be poorer and the country less safe without slavery.

