Edmund Burke was born on January 12, 1729 to his wed parents Richard, a prosperous solicitor, and Mary Burke in Dublin, Ireland. Like his father, Edmund was raised to be part of the Church of Ireland. He attended a Quaker to receive his early education and graduated to attend Trinity College, Dublin in 1744. While at Trinity, he created a debating club which turned into the College Historical Society and now stands as the oldest undergraduate society in the world. He eventually graduated in 1748 and attempted to study law, but quit in order to instead pursue a writing career. His first book, *A Vindication of Natural Society: A View of the Miseries and Evils Arising to Mankind*, was published in 1752 and was a satirical rebuttal to Lord Bolingbroke’s atheistic rationalistic argument out *Letters on the Study and Use of History*. Burke then moved to London and eventually published a second book, *A Philosophical Enquiry into the Origin of Our Ideas of the Sublime and Beautiful*, which was a purely philosophical treatise on aesthetics. This book gained popularity and attracted the attention of the likes of both Denis Diderot and Immanuel Kant who were both preeminent Continental thinkers at the time. While in London, Burke was affiliated with numerous intellectuals and artists who greatly influence his works later on in life. By 1765 Burke had become the private secretary to the Prime Minister of Great Britain, Charles Watson-Wentworth, who was a distinguished liberal Whig.

**American and French Revolution**

After serving as Wentworths secretary, Burke went on to gain the support of the Whig Party and to represent them in Parliament for many years in the House of Commons of Great Britain. During the American Revolution he notably expressed support in the House for the American colonies that were being oppressed under the government of King George III and his appointed representatives. He was opposed to Civil War and made numerous speeches to appeal for peace. Burke simply believed the American Revolution to be a war, in which, the British government fought “the American English” under a King with German lineage. Consequently, he thought that it was in the Americans rights and liberties to revolutionize.

After the French Revolution, Burke published his most notable work, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, in 1790 which revealed that he felt the complete opposite about the French Revolution. Burke spoke harshly against the French in the text by arguing that the French did not have the right to revolutionize, because the French’s reasoning was abstract and it focused on metaphysical rights of men instead of the national tradition. Burke merely thought that it unnatural to live in state where God is not feared, there are kings, parliaments, magistrates and priests.