

# Grade 9 Answer

## Explain Importance

8  
Marks

### Question:

Explain the importance of the Stono Rebellion (1739) for relations between enslaved people and colonial society in British America. (8 marks)

### Answer:

The Stono Rebellion (1739) was important for relations between enslaved people and colonial society in British America because it heightened colonial fears about slave uprisings, leading to stricter laws and increased oppression of enslaved people. The rebellion, in which a group of enslaved people in South Carolina attempted to escape to Spanish Florida where they would be granted freedom, was the largest slave uprising in the British colonies at the time. Though the rebellion was ultimately suppressed, it exposed vulnerabilities within the colonies and underscored the strength of enslaved people's desire for freedom. This event led to stricter enforcement of the Slave Code, with South Carolina's Negro Act of 1740, which limited enslaved people's movement, restricted assembly, and banned their literacy. The rebellion therefore deepened mistrust and tension between enslaved people and white colonists, as the latter saw the need to prevent further uprisings through increased control and surveillance.

The rebellion also influenced colonial attitudes toward slave management and their social role in colonial society. Colonists increasingly viewed enslaved people as a potential internal threat, which led to a harsher approach to slavery and greater justification for oppressive policies across other colonies as well. The Stono Rebellion not only led to more restrictive laws in South Carolina but also set a precedent for harsher regulations across the Southern colonies, where the economic dependence on slavery was significant. Colonists saw the rebellion as proof that enslaved people might rebel if given the chance, leading to a shift towards even more tightly controlled and violent systems of oppression, which entrenched racial hierarchies and created further division within colonial society.

### Feedback:

This answer would get 8/8 marks because the pupil has explained and analysed the importance and included accurate and relevant knowledge.