Contributor: Barbara Mills   **Grade Level:** 9-12 or Middle School

1. **Identify the standards to be addressed:**
   American History, Social Studies

2. **Statement of the objective and lesson outcomes**:
   Research/Read/Discuss American female Heads of Households making a living and supporting their families during the American Revolution and whose labors made the new nation possible,

3. **Materials, resources, and technology to be used by teacher/students**:
   Books: "Betsy Ross and the Making of America" by Marla R. Miller; "Founding Mothers" and "Ladies of Liberty" both by Cokie Roberts------for older students. Computers for research and produce report; poster making supplies: paper, choice of markers/colored pencils/crayons

4. **Introduction of the topic**:
   Betsy Ross and her Quaker education, her apprenticeship, her start as a craftswoman and business owner.

5. **Procedure for instruction**:
    Research and discussion of how Betsy Ross was widowed twice during the Revolution (both of her husbands died from the war.)
   Research and discussion of how Betsy Ross continued to run her business, raise her children, and make her own living which was hard for a woman back then.
   Research and discussion of how Betsy Ross not only had to support her immediate family, but at various times had to support her widowed sisters, and her nieces, and her cousins--- all had to contribute to the household.
   Step beyond: Review stories of American women/widows left behind while husbands were leading/fighting/dying in the American Revolution

6. **Lesson closure**:
   Students produce a picture/or a report highlighting a female Patriot.

7. **Assessment of student understanding**:
   Improved understanding of strong, independent, loving and loyal Betsy Ross (and the other working women) who helped build American cities and farms, produced furniture, newspapers, and clothing for its citizens, all while suffering the consequences of the Revolution.