**The Counter Reformation**

**I. Historical Circumstances**

**Throughout the Middle Ages, the Catholic Church sunk deeper into a pit of scandal and corruption. By the 1520s, Martin Luther's ideas brought opposition to the Church and gained wide spread support against the Catholic Church. Christian Europe was torn apart.** The challenge from Luther caught the Pope by surprise. The leaders of the Catholic Church were also frightened by how confidently the Princes of Germany resisted (fought against) Vatican pressure. These leaders, supposedly subject to the authority of the Church, now declared themselves independent of Vatican rule.  **In response, the Catholic Church set in motion the counter-reformation.**

**What were the historical circumstances/context that led to the development of the Counter-Reformation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**DIRECTIONS: Actively read the documents with your group members about the Counter Reformation. Fill in the chart below.**

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| **Counter Reformation Documents** | **PURPOSE****What was the *purpose* of the Catholic Church creating this document/ institution?** | **To what extent do you think it was successful in stopping the spread of Protestantism? Explain.** |
| **DOCUMENT 1:****THE COUNCIL OF TRENT** |  |  |
| **DOCUMENT 2:****THE INDEX** |  |  |
| **DOCUMENT 3:****THE INQUISITION** |  |  |
| **DOCUMENT 4:****JESUITS** |  |  |

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Band: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**HOMEWORK – COUNTER REFORMATION**

**Directions: After completing the documents on the methods used by the RCC to limit the spread of Protestantism, explain which method you believe was most effective.**

Be sure to include the following:

* Topic Sentence
* A minimum of **2 pieces of evidence** that explain which method you feel was most effective by the RCC in stopping the spread of Protestantism.
* A counter argument: An explanation why other method(s) was/were not effective.
* Analysis that supports your reasons
* Closing sentence

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