

The Enlightenment

- **The Enlightened Thought and the Republic of Letters (Writers)**
- **Age of Reason**
 - o Same as Enlightenment
 - o **18th century**
 - o Years preceding French Revolution (1789)
 - o Grew out of Scientific revolution
 - ⑩ Philosophers applied reason to social, political, and economic issues
 - ⑩ Rejected authority
 - Demanded proof
 - o Centered in France but elsewhere also
 - ⑩ Read worldwide
 - o **Philosophes** - French philosophers
- **Characteristics**
 - o Belief in **natural law** and **natural rights**
 - o Emphasis on reason, science, proof
 - ⑩ Skeptical of tradition, authority, censorship
 - o Sense of progress
 - ⑩ *"To make future better than the present"*
 - o Rejection of superstition
 - ⑩ End to witchcraft
 - o Critical of organized religion
 - o *Rejected original sin*
 - o **Deism**
 - ⑩ God exists; not atheist
 - ⑩ God = first cause
 - ⑩ Man doesn't need the church to promise him salvation
 - ⑩ God not necessarily a loving God; ONLY a intellectual concept
 - ⑩ **"Great Watchmaker"**
 - God made the world, wound it up, and stuck it out there for it to tick on forever, DOES NOT INTERFERE
 - **Intelligent Design** - present-day deism (creationism)
 - ⑩ Confined to the philosophes
 - o **Religious fervor** remained
 - ⑩ **Pietism**
 - Northern Germany
 - Purify Lutheranism (more personal religion)
 - "Inner spirit" not reason
 - ⑩ **Methodism**
 - John Wesley 1703-1791
 - Against gambling, drinking, dancing
 - *Great Awakening* in America (revival of religion)
 - ⑩ **Mystification**
 - J. C. Lavater
 - Study facial expression and figure out character
 - ⑩ **Mesmerism**
 - Anton F. Mesmer 1734- 1815
 - Try to hypnotize patients
 - Not scientific
 - "Quack doctor"
 - ⑩ **Freemasons**
 - Secret society
 - An organized fraternity

- Meet in lodges that are closed to the public

- **The Philosophes**

- Thinkers with critical and inquiring spirit
- Writers - "**Men of Letters**"
 - ⑩ Spread ideas of the Enlightenment
 - ⑩ Wrote for the public (fun, comical, pleasant)
- Met in **salons**
 - ⑩ "cocktail parties" / "book club"
 - ⑩ Meetings in homes of prominent women where philosophes gathered and discussed issues
- Advocated reform, not revolution
- Ideas varied

Enlightenment

The Age of Reason

- Another name for enlightenment
- XVIII (18th c.) intellectual movement
- Outgrowth of Scientific Revolution
- *PHILOSOPHERS APLIED REASON TO SOLVE SOCIAL PROBLEMS*

- **Philosophes = Philosophers**

- French name
- Writers and thinkers of the early 18th c.
- Social reformers
- Mostly French
- Critical of society
- Wanted to solve social problems (applied reason to:)
 - ⑩ Government
 - ⑩ Religion
 - ⑩ Economics
 - ⑩ Education
 - ⑩ Law
- Most of them:
 - ⑩ Valued equality
 - ⑩ Supported political freedom
 - ⑩ Advocated religious tolerance
 - ⑩ Criticized organized church
 - ⑩ Opposed to superstition, war, slavery
 - ⑩ Opposed to censorship
- **Salon**
 - ⑩ ... Like a cocktail party where women invited philosophes and listened to them
 - ⑩ Social meetings / parties (book club)
 - ⑩ Invited philosophes
 - ⑩ Spread ideas of philosophers

JON LOCKE

Similar to Hobbes:

- -----
- Englishmen
- 17th century
- (mid 1700s)
- Political scientists
 - o How government created
- Started with state of nature
 - o Period without government
 - o Before the creation of government
- Responded to Glorious Revolution
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- **Social contract**
 - o Agreement to form government

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STATE OF NATURE:

- o Man is genial, responsible, cooperative and free
- o 3 rights
 - Ⓢ Life
 - Ⓢ Liberty
 - Ⓢ Property
 - Property short circuits
- o Rights overlap

SOCIAL CONTRACT:

- o Because rights overlap
- o Purpose of government is to protect rights
- o Contact can be rescinded
 - Ⓢ Ruler can be overthrow by men

TWO TREATISES ON GOVERNMENT,

- o Glorious Revolution was good
- o Influenced Declaration of Independence
- o Government created by man NOT GOD
- o Basics of democratic thought

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Founding fathers changed Property to Pursuit of happiness

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SOCIAL SCIENTIST:

- o *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, 1690
 - To find out how we learn what we learn
 - "Tabula Rasa" - mind is an "erased tablet"
 - o Experience rights on tablet
 - **Empiricism / Empirical / Empiricist** - all knowledge comes from experiences and senses
 - Basis of liberal thought

If you want to change man you have to change his experience

THOMAS HOBBS

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----- Similar to Locke:

- -----
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- **Social contract**
- o Agreement to form government
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- **STATE OF NATURE:**

- o Low opinion of state of nature
- o Nasty, brutish, quarrelsome and short tempered
- o Chaos Chaos Chaos Chaos
- o BAD, people scared and insecure
- o No capacity for self government
- o So bad that leads to social contract with the ruler

- **SOCIAL CONTRACT:**

- o Surrender rights and freedoms to ruler
- o Ruler protects from fear and gives order
- o Absoluter ruler

- **LEVIATHAN, 1651**

- o Opposed to Glorious Revolution
- Ⓣ Once man gives up rights he can never get them back
- Ⓣ Man can not overthrow the government because he accepted social contract
- Ⓣ Not allowed to overthrow
- Ⓣ Disagrees with Glorious Revolution
- Ⓣ Opposed to the fact that people overthrew James II
 - o Government created by man NOT GOD
- Ⓣ Man give power to the government
- o Absolutist

MONTESQUIEU

- **Nationality:** French
- **Social Class:** **Aristocrat, noble**

- **Political Scientist:**
 - Studied different governments and culture
 - ⑩ Concluded that none of them were perfect, but all had good characteristics
 - ⑩ Critical of absolute monarchy
 - ⑩ Admired *British* (**Constitutionalism** - law is the highest, not the king or ruler)
 - *Balance of power*
 - ⑩ Wanted to have a little of every government
 - **Separation of Power:** ("**Spirit of the Laws**" 1748)
 - ⑩ COMPARED GOVERNMENTS
 - ⑩ **Legislative**
 - ⑩ **Executive**
 - ⑩ **Judicial**
 - ⑩ To prevent abuse of power (balance of powers)
 - ⑩ **Constitution of USA**
 - Very interested in law
 - ⑩ Everybody must obey law (Even King)
 - ⑩ "Liberty is doing whatever the laws allow"
 - "**Persian Letters**" ...book
 - ⑩ Criticized nobles
 - ⑩ Men are better... but women are capable... good for separation of power
 - ⑩ Travel log
 - Persians traveling through Europe sending letters back home
 - ⑩ Escaped censorship this way
 - Forms of government vary with the climate??
 - ⑩ Despotism - hot climates
 - ⑩ Democracy - cooler climates

- **Social views:**
 - Opposed slavery
 - ⑩ Violated natural laws

- **Religious views:**
 - Not very religious
 - Church useful for balance of power
 - Pope = magician
 - AGAINST DIVINE RIGHT

- ⑩ Power comes from the people

VOLTAIRE

Pen Name: Voltaire

Real Name: Francois Marie Arouet

Profession: Royal historian to Louis XV

Social Class: Middle Class - **Bourgeois**

Nationality: French

Corresponded with: Catherine the Great

Characteristics:

VERY POPULAR - Witty, Funny, **Sarcastic**, Easiest to read, Optimistic

- Accomplishments:

- Wrote 70+ books
 - o **Candide**
 - o Mocked nobility and philosophers
 - o "Tend your own garden"

Religious views:

- **Deist...**
 - o Great Watchmaker in the Sky
 - o God made a watch (earth)... stuck it out and left it alone
 - o God made it but is not involved in daily affairs
 - o Does not believe in worship
- Believed in religious toleration
- ---
- Criticized Christians
 - o *Christ* = religious fanatic
 - o *Bible* = work of ignorant men
 - o *Miracles* = bunch of lies
 - o Clergy was more concerned with privilege and power than morals
 - o *Christianity* = history of religious persecution in the name of God
 - o CRITICAL OF ORGANIZED CHURCH

- Political Views:

- o BEST government = **Enlightened monarchy**
 - ⑩ Need strong government
 - ⑩ People too stupid to rule themselves
 - ⑩ Ruler should be enlightened
- o Democracy is okay... but not for France
- o Government should
 1. Fight stupidity and laziness
 2. Keep church weak
 3. Protect freedom of thought, religion, and press

- Social Views:

- o Source of problems = nobility
- o Get rid of titles of nobility
- o Opposed to slavery
- o Freedom of Thought and press
 - Opposed to censorship
- "I do not believe a word you say, but I will defend to the death, your right to say it"

DIDEROT

Denis Diderot

- **"Encyclopedia"**
 - ⑩ 28 Volumes
 - ⑩ Had pictures, and diagrams
 - ⑩ Each article written by different author (60,000)
 - ⑩ Very subjective - opinionated, **biased**
 - ⑩ Banned by church
 - Sold even more
 - Sold 20,000 copies
- o To spread ideas of the Enlightenment
- Exposed evils of society
 - o Torture
 - o War
 - o Slavery
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- Supported
 - o Free speech
 - o Education
- **Critical of**
 - o **Absolute monarchy**
 - o **Organized religion**
 - o Wanted to look critically at everything
- He was a deist

"Man will never be free until the last king is strangled with the entrails of the last priest"

ROUSSEAU

Life:

- 1712 - 1778
- Social critic
- Misfit
- Unlike other philosophes
 - o VERY POOR
 - ⑩ Sold wife and kids into slavery
 - o Catholic
- Controversial

- ★ Forerunner of Romanticism - ahead of his time
 - o Emotion = most important

Social Views:

- Man born good... busy society corrupts him
- Progress is bad
- Opposed to modern world
- Admired the 'noble savage'
 - o Someone who lived simple life
 - o Good human qualities

- Wanted to reform society
 - o Simple life
 - o Free from evil, private property, materialism,
 - o Assuredness of liberty

- Women lack ability

BOOKS:

"Emile" - life, education

"Confessions" - society

"Social Contract" - government

Political Views:

- Most democratic
- Man is capable of ruling himself
- Faith in common man
- Government should reflect the "general will"... majority

Pure Democracy:

- Every would directly participate

Religious views:

- Catholic
- Tolerant

Education:

- Purpose = self reliance
 - No formal education until age 12
 - Learn from experience
 - o EMPIRICISM
 - Self reliance
 - First book to read: Robinson Crusoe - self reliant
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Enlightened Arts

Rococo

- ⑩ 18th Century
- ⑩ Louis XV Style
- ⑩ **Because:** after Louis XIV died, court moved back to Paris
- ⑩ **Name:** *rocaille*, "rock work"
- ⑩ Reaction against the formal baroque style (Louis XIV)
 - Baroque = religious, Counter-Reformation
 - Flowed out of Baroque
- ⑩ Final phase of baroque
- ⑩ Ornate, but light (less heavy)
- ⑩ New taste for more delicate decorations
 - Suitable for smaller and more intimate interiors of town houses
- ⑩ Not religious
- ⑩ Denoting the frivolous over-elaboration
- ⑩ **Characteristics:**
 - Flowing curves
 - Free graceful movement
 - Playful use of line
 - **Delicate colors**
 - Ornate curls
 - Gilded molding
 - Subject matter
 - **Secular** (not religious)
 - Erotic (suggestive flirting... erotic for the 18th not 21st century)
 - No ~~grand heroes~~ or ~~historical themes~~
 - Birds, flowers, life, etc
 - Carefree life of the aristocracy (**aristocrats at play**)
 - ◇ Love, fun, romance, nature

⑩

Artists:

- **Jean Honore Fragonard**
 - (*The Swing*) 1767
 - ◇ Woman kicking of her shoe on a swing in a garden
 - (*Blindman's Buff*)
 - ◇ Adults playing little kid's game
- **François Boucher**
 - (*The Love Letter*)
 - ◇ Aristocratic, rosy-cheeked and somewhat pudgy aristocratic ladies
 - ◇ Country life, "shepherdesses" wearing fine clothes
 - ◇ Originally oval, but canvas added
- **Antoine Watteau**
 - Perfect example of Rococo
 - "Off balance", asymmetrical
 - (*The Embarkation for Cythera*)
 - ◇ Group of aristocrats embarking for the mythical birthplace of Venus
 - ◇ Fuzzy

Opera

- ⑩ Began to decline
- ⑩ Criticized by philosophes

Enlightened Monarchy

- **Enlightened Monarchy and Benevolent Despotism**

○ **Growth of Monarchy**

- ⑩ *New Monarch* - 16th Century
- ⑩ *Absolute Monarchs* - 17th Century
- ⑩ *Enlightened Monarchs* - 18th Century
- ⑩ Very similar
- ⑩ *Role of the monarch evolved*

⑩ **New Monarchs**

- *Characteristics:*
 - Laid foundation of modern state
 - Suppressed brigands
 - Established law and order
 - Levied taxes
 - Claimed rule by divine right
 - ◇ Legitimacy - (from God)
- *Examples:*
 - **Henry VII**
 - **Louis XI**
 - **Ferdinand and Isabella**

⑩ **Absolute Monarchs**

- *Characteristics:*
 - Centralized power
 - Created strong nation states
 - Mercantilists
 - Weakened nobility and church
 - Built bureaucracy
 - Built up military
 - Ruled by divine right
- *Examples:*
 - **Peter the Great**
 - **Louis XIV**
 - **Charles XII**
 - **Leopold II**
 - **Frederick William, the Great Elector** (lesser degree)

⑩ **Enlightened Monarchs**

- *Characteristics:*
 - Made reforms to increase their own power
 - ◇ Education
 - ◇ Toleration
 - ◇ Eased punishments
 - Made state more powerful, but not necessarily more just
 - **Secular rule**; did not claim to rule by divine right
- *Examples:*
 - **Frederick the Great (Prussia)**
 - **Joseph II (Austria)**
 - **Catherine the Great (Russia)**
 - **Louis XV** (*least enlightened of them all*)

Enlightened Monarchy

- **Enlightened Monarchs**

- **France**

- **Louis XV & Louis XVI** (France 1715 – 1774 & 1774 – 1793)
- least enlightened

Charles III (Spain, r. 1759 – 1788)

- required universities to teach science and philosophy
- relaxed censorship
- abolished death penalty
- expelled Jews

Maria Theresa (Austria, r. 1740 – 1780) (very cautious re. change) "Baby Steps"

- built up; centralized bureaucracy
 - Ⓣ appointed able ministers
 - Ⓣ Really good at picking good people
- increased taxes
- maintained flow of soldiers
- broke control of local **diets** (assembly)
- left Hungary alone
- didn't force Hungary to conform
- wanted to increase production
 - Ⓣ set up tariff union of Bohemia, Moravia, Austria (area of free trade)
 - Ⓣ limited guilds
 - Ⓣ suppressed brigands
- reformed abuses of serfdom

Joseph II (Austria, r. 1780 – 1790) (impatient, wanted total abolition of bad conditions, fast to act)

- Total opposite of her mother
- **abolished serfdom**
- **economic reform**
 - Ⓣ built up port of Trieste
 - Ⓣ established an E. India Co.
 - Ⓣ equality of taxation
- equal punishment for equal crimes
- punishment made less cruel
- freedom of press and religion
- **religion**
 - Ⓣ improved civil rights for Jews including granting nobility
 - Ⓣ allowed Protestants to become civil servants
 - Ⓣ supported **Febronianism** (freedom from Roman control of church)
 - increased control over bishops
 - suppressed monasteries (took some of their wealth)
 - Ⓣ set up secular hospitals
- **administrative reforms**

- ⑩ centralized the state
 - ⑩ included Hungary under controls
 - ⑩ est. German as single language of the gov't
 - ⑩ civil servant
 - arranged for training courses
 - provided retirement pensions
 - established efficiency reports and inspections
 - ⑩ secret police
 - Established education system (primary through university)
 - **FAILED**; could not do it all by himself
 - ⑩ opposition from *nobles, church, Hungary* and Bel.
 - ⑩ too few middle class to help support
 - ⑩ Leopold (brother) undid most of Joseph's reforms
- **Frederick the Great (Prussia; r. 1740 – 1786)**
- **Background / Beliefs**
 - ⑩ didn't get along with father
 - ⑩ became cynical
 - ⑩ became a soldier
 - ⑩ married but never consummated
 - ⑩ invaded Silesia (War of Austrian Succession) Broke Pragmatic Sanction
 - ⑩ very ill (porphyria)
 - ⑩ read philosophes, corresponded, ran a salon, fought with Voltaire
 - ⑩ wrote history: anti Machiavelli
 - ⑩ interested in music; played flute, wrote sonatas and concertos
 - ⑩ Protestant/Lutheran
 - **Devoted to his subjects**
 - ⑩ His job to make people happy, without giving up power
 - against sweeping change
 - ⑩ wise, moderate, reasonable
 - encouraged crop rotation
 - **Administrative reforms**
 - ⑩ "*1st servant of the state*"
 - ⑩ codified laws
 - ⑩ abolished capital punishment
 - ⑩ reformed courts (cheaper, increased efficiency, honesty)
 - ⑩ built up the civil service; est. civil service exam
 - ⑩ never relegated any real authority (attended to all business himself)
 - **Religious reforms**
 - ⑩ some religious reform but
 - Prussia already docile and Lutheran church subordinate to state
 - intolerant of Jews
 - **Social reforms**
 - ⑩ some free elementary education for all
 - ⑩ did little for serfs
 - freed serfs on his own estates, but needed support of Junkers
 - Junkers free to deal with serfs in their own way
 - ⑩ maintained rigid class differences
 - small middle class
 - power of Junkers checked but not abolished
 - ⑩ believed in freedom of speech
 - **no successors**

- **Catherine the Great (Russia, r. 1762 – 1796)**
 - o centralized GOV.
 - o **Background**
 - ⑩ German
 - ⑩ Married to Russian Czar (Peter III)
 - ⑩ r. 1762-1796
 - ⑩ Intelligent and ambitious
 - ⑩ Agreed with philosophes (Voltaire..)
 - invited Diderot to Russia
 - ⑩ Well liked
 - ⑩ Adopted Russian ways religion language
 - ⑩ May have been part of her husbands death (murder)
 - o **Political Reforms:**
 - o **Charter of Rights** for nobles
 - ⑩ No taxation for nobles
 - ⑩ No government service
 - o **Legislative Commission** 1767
 - ⑩ Traveled around Russia and reported to Catherine
 - o Merchants received freedom to trade
 - o **Expansionist**
 - Expanded territory (west and south)
 - expansion break down of Balance of Power
 - o **War with Ottoman Empire**
 - ⑩ Won ports on Black Sea
 - ⑩ Annexed Crimea
 - o **3 partitions of Poland**
 - ⑩ Won land in west
 - ⑩ 1772, 1773, 1795
 - ⑩ Austria, Russia, Prussia
 - ⑩ No Poland left... wiped off map
 - o favored **boyars**
 - o **Social Reforms**
 - o Wrote legal code
 - o Restricted use of torture
 - o Granted some religious toleration
 - stopped persecution of Old Believers
 - o Introduced western education
 - o Encouraged the arts
 - o Encouraged printing
 - o Established schools to educated daughters of nobles
 - ★ o Did not help the serfs
 - o **Purgachev's Rebellions**
 - o 1773
 - o CAUSE: Fighting for rights of serfs
 - o FAILED
 - o OUTCOME: Led to further degradation

Economics / Physiocrats

Physiocrats

- economists of 18th century
- Applied reason to economic issues
- Critical of mercantilism
- Believed in free trade
- Looked for natural laws

Mercantilism

- 17th Century
- Economics should make economy strong
- Trade is most important ([balance of trade](#))
- [Government regulation](#)
- [Specie](#) (gold and silver)

Beliefs of Physiocrats

- Should make individual strong
- Farming was the most important economic activity
- [Free market](#) ([laissez faire](#))
 - Ⓣ Totally [free trade](#)
 - Ⓣ No tariffs
- Real wealth = [land](#) (farming, mining, logging)

Adam Smith, 1723-1790 - *Father of Capitalism*

- English
- Admired physiocrats
- "[Wealth of Nations](#)" - 1776
- [Leave economy alone](#)
- **Invisible Hand** would control economy
 - Ⓣ **Market Forces**
 - *Supply and demand*
 - *Competition*
- **[Role of Government](#)**
 - Ⓣ Maintain [legal framework](#)
 - Banking laws
 - Business laws
 - [Set up so that business takes place...](#) maintain contracts
 - Ⓣ Maintain competition
 - Not allow monopolies
 - Ⓣ Keep the peace
 - Promote stability
 - Law and order
- **Division of Labor**
- [Self Interest](#)
 - Ⓣ If everyone does what's good for them, it will be good for the nation
- **[Dismal Scientists](#)**
 - Ⓣ Followers of Adam Smith
 - Ⓣ Took him literally and [took it too far](#)