



THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

Chapter 17.2

THE STUARTS, CROMWELL, AND THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR



- Charles I of England Marries a Catholic French Princess
- More importantly he dissolves Parliament in 1629
- 1642 Civil War breaks out culminated in Cromwell taking over and the king being tried for treason and beheaded
- Cromwell, initially restores parliament, but increasingly takes power for himself
 - Names himself “Lord Protectorate of the Commonwealth of England, Ireland, and Scotland”
 - A controversial figure, he will eventually be “Posthumously Executed”
- Civil war rages on until 1688 when James II, descendent of Charles I, retakes the throne

THE GLORIOUS REVOLUTION

- James II, has a son with his second, Catholic wife and Parliament panics
- They invite James' eldest daughter and her Dutch husband William of Orange to invade
- William And Mary raise an army, land some ships, minimal fighting occurs
- James and his new wife and son take off
- Results in an almost bloodless change in power



CREATING A CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY

- By 1689 William and Mary are installed as joint Monarchs
- Parliament also passes the English Bill of Rights, forever limiting the rights of kings and protecting the rights of Parliament



THE TOLERATION ACT OF 1689

- Granted *limited* religious freedom
 - Puritans were okay, Catholics were not
 - Catholics would be forbidden from joining parliament or the army for the next century and it was forbidden for an heir to the throne to be or marry a Catholic until 2015
- Officially ends the “divine authority” of the King
 - Now he was king by Parliamentary authority



WILLIAM III. GIVING HIS ROYAL ASSENT TO THE TOLERATION ACT, 1689.



LOCKE AND HOBBS: QUESTIONS TO PONDER

What is Hobbes view on humans and human nature? Locke?

How might historical context relate to these views?

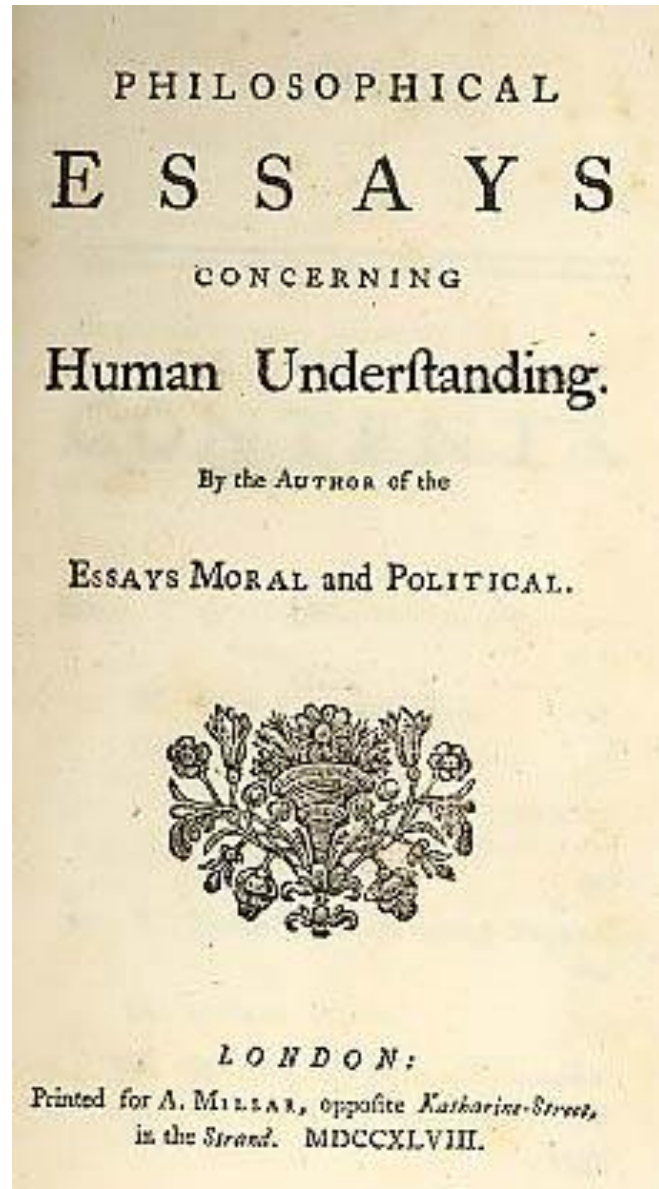
With whom do you agree?

Which Philosopher would be most likely to argue



JOHN LOCK |

“ESSAY CONCERNING HUMAN UNDERSTANDING”



We begin life as a “white paper, devoid of understanding” and experiences make us who we are today.

The conclusion: If we are all born the same, we are all born with the same rights.

“TWO TREATISES ON GOVERNMENT” 1689

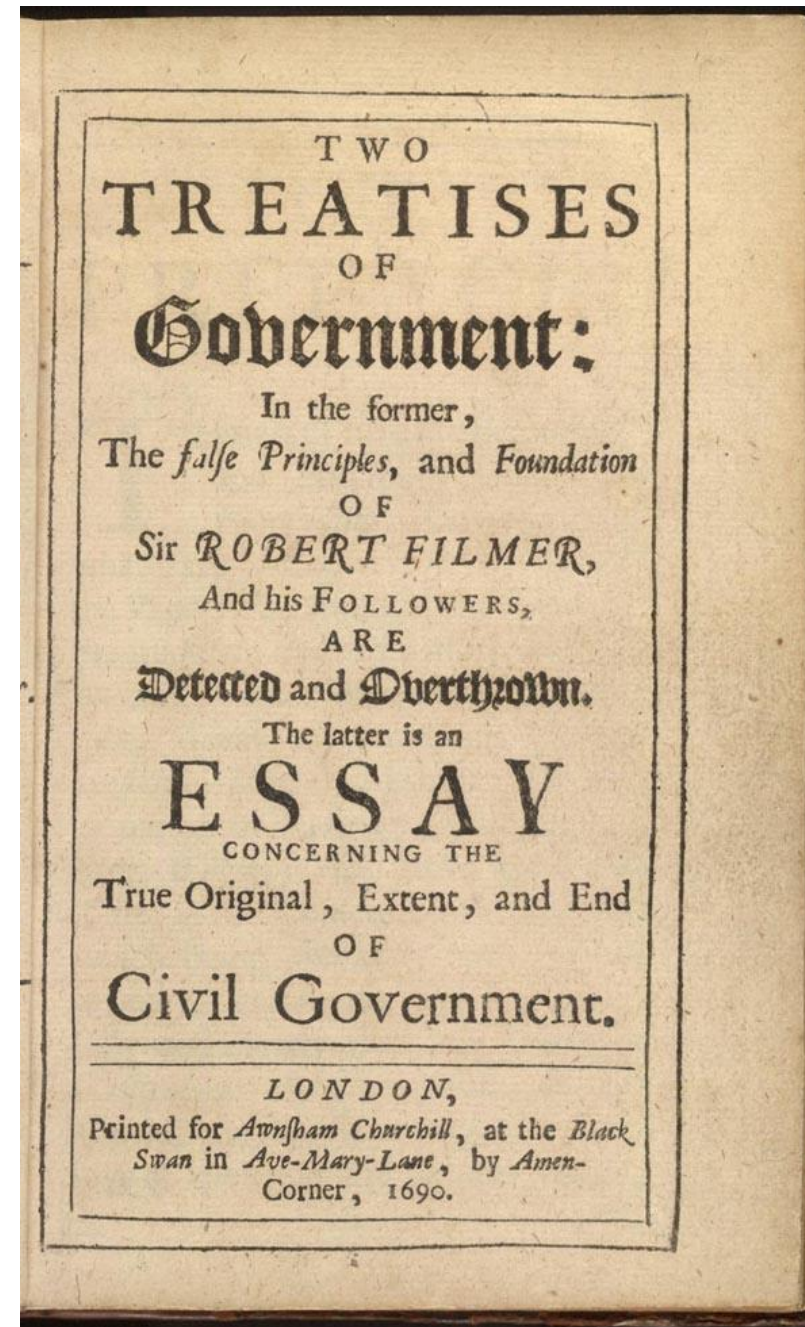
Legislation

Making laws

Enforcement

Carrying laws out

If these roles are not kept separate either the government will fall apart or those natural rights will be trampled upon



“The state of nature has a law of nature to govern it, which obliges every one: and reason, which is that law, teaches all mankind, who will but consult it, that being all equal and independent, no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty, or possessions.”

“whenever the Legislators endeavor to take away, and destroy the Property of the People, or to reduce them to Slavery under Arbitrary Power, they put themselves into a state of War with the People, who are thereupon absolved from any farther Obedience”

“when the Government is dissolved, the People are at liberty to provide for themselves, by erecting a new Legislative, differing from the other, by the change of Persons, or Form, or both as they shall find it most for their safety and good.”

Second Treatise of Government, Ch. II, sec. 6

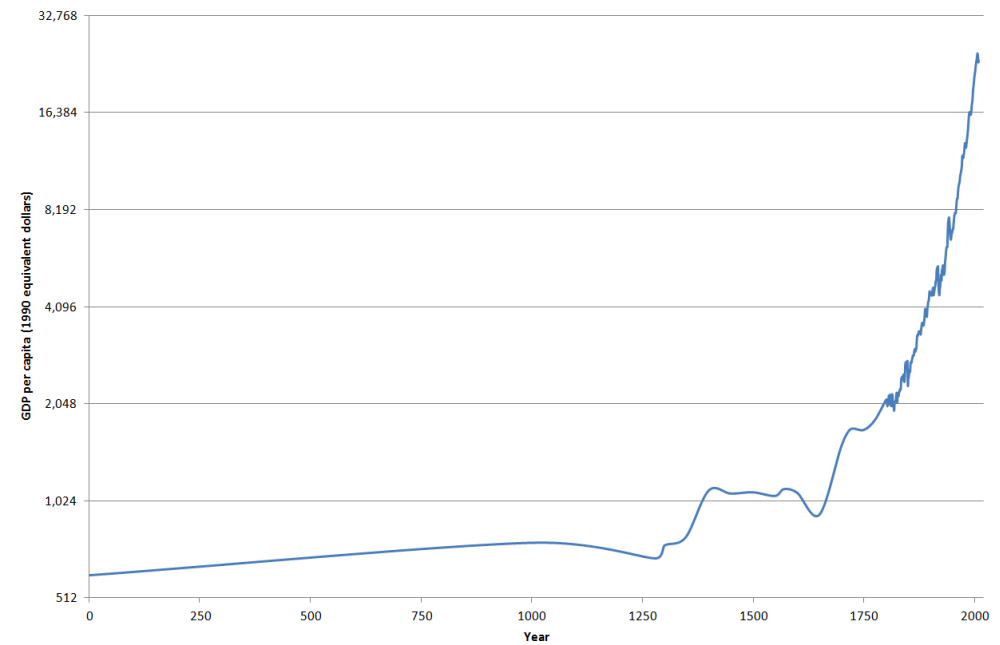
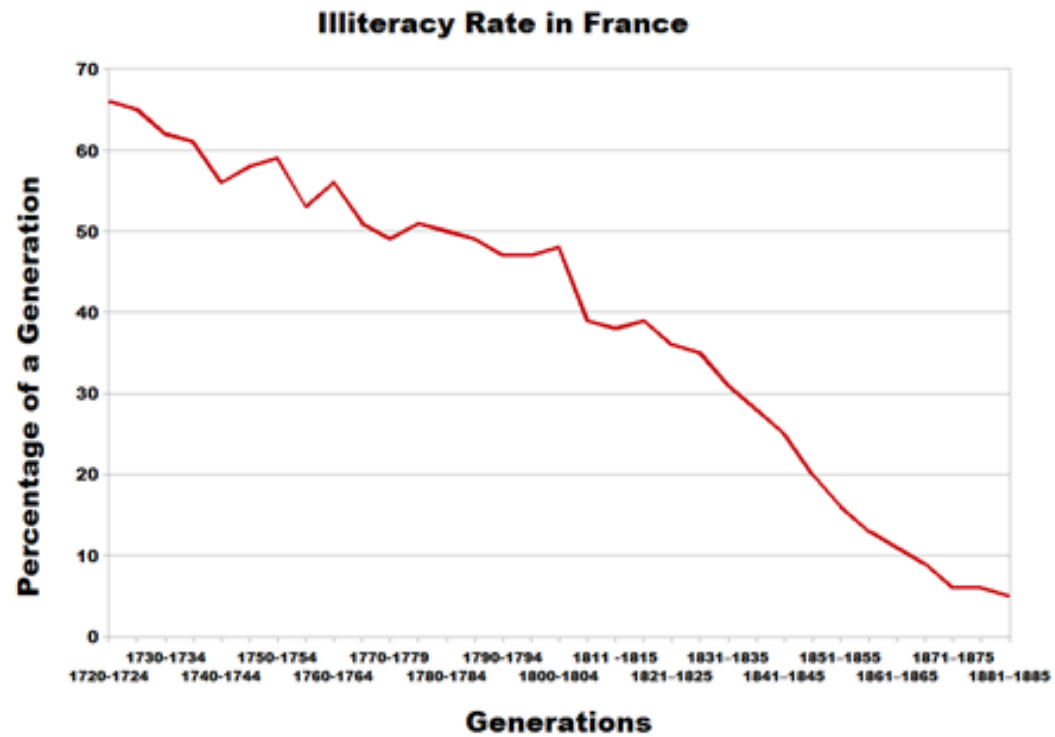
“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.”

-Declaration of Independence, 1776



Coffee, Literacy, and the Spread of the Enlightenment

Literacy and wealth



Public Spheres of Interaction

English Coffee Houses



French Salons



Similarity: A heterogeneous group of people came together to engage in rational debate



Coffee Houses:

- Women were not participants outside of serving roles
- Coffee Houses were public businesses where any man who could afford the penny for coffee was welcome



Salons:

- Women actively organized and facilitated these meetings
- Guest lists were put together by the Salonnières (hostesses) who could deny entry to anyone

a. Human society is governed by Natural Laws.

b. These Natural Laws can be discovered by rational men.

c. Human society can turn from traditional, authoritarian forms, and progress toward a more perfect government through rational thought.



Charles-Louis de Secondat, the Baron of Montesquieu

- French Lawyer, political philosopher, writer
- Achieved literary success with the publication of his *Lettres Persanes* (Persian Letters, 1721), a satire as seen through the eyes of two imaginary visitors to Paris and Europe, criticizing the absurdities of contemporary French society.
- “The less you think, the more people agree with you.”
- His masterwork: *De l'Esprit des Lois* (*The Spirit of the Laws*)



The Spirit of the Laws 1748

“Political liberty is to be found only in moderate governments; and even in these it is not always found... it is necessary, from the very nature of things, that power should be a check to power. The political liberty of the subject is a tranquility of mind arising from the opinion each person has of his safety.

In order to have this liberty, it is requisite the government be so constituted as one man need not be afraid of another. When the legislative and executive powers are united in the same person, or in the same body of magistrates, there can be no liberty. . .”

“Since we observe that the world, though formed by the motion of matter, and void of understanding, subsists through so long a succession of ages, its motions must certainly be directed by invariable laws. . .

They [laws] should be adapted in this manner to the people for whom they are framed, because it is most unlikely that the laws of one nation will suit another. They should be relative to the nature and principle of each government. . .

They should be relative to the climate of each country, to the quality of its soil, to its situation and extent, to the principal occupation of the inhabitants, whether farmers, huntsmen, or shepherds: they should have a relation to the degree of liberty which the constitution will bear”

Do you agree?

Using the Scientific Method

Montesquieu identified three types of Government:

1. Republics

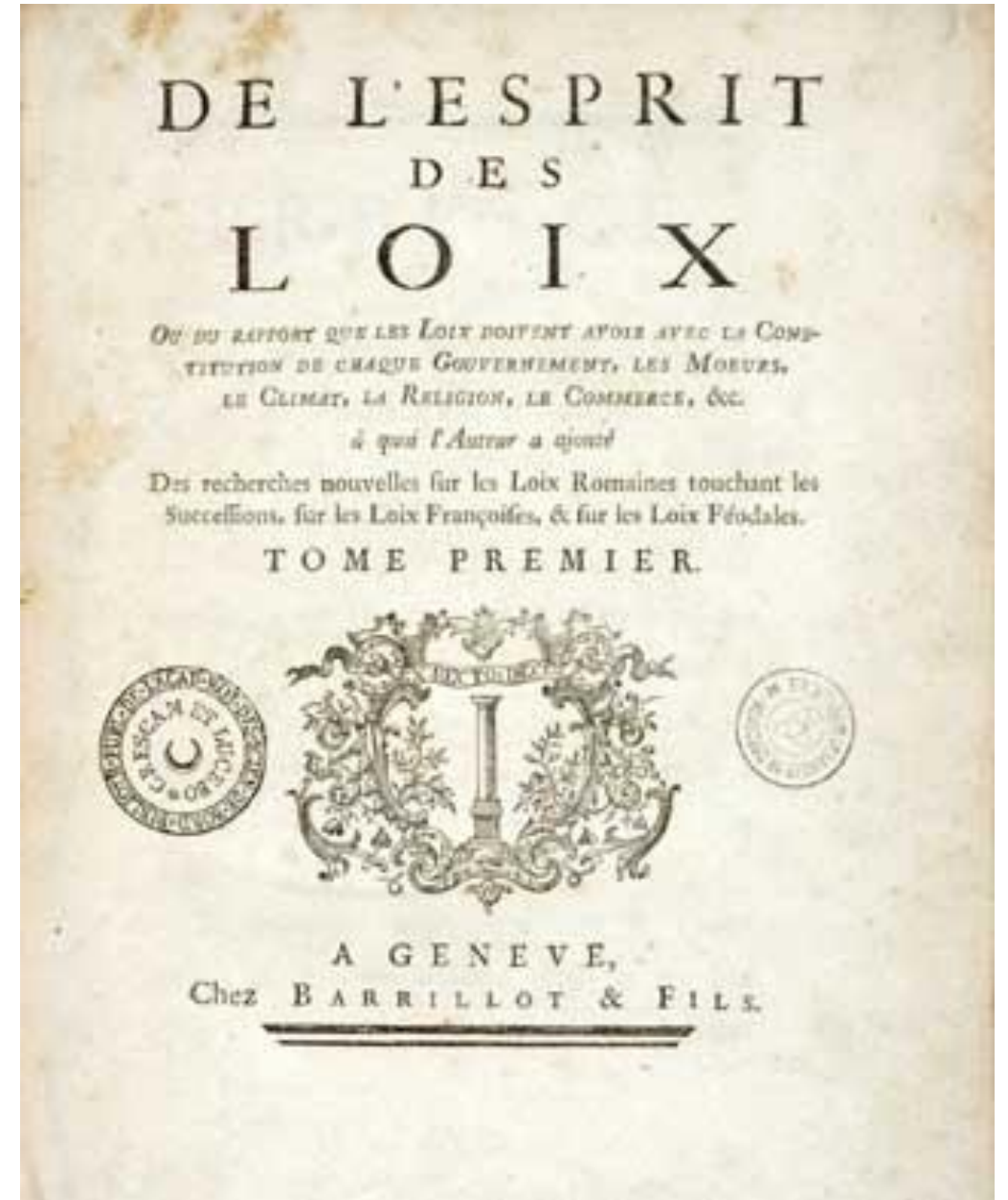
- Suitable for small states (countries)

2. Despotism

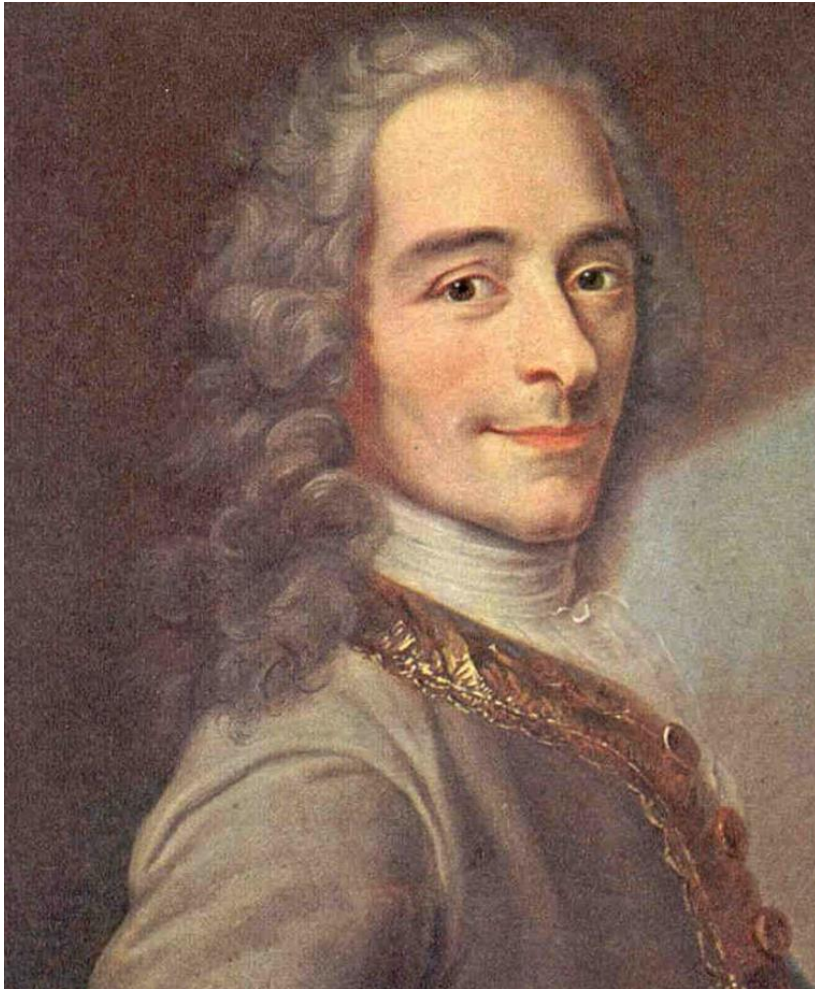
- Suitable for large states

3. Monarchies

- Ideal for moderate sized states, such as England which he used as an example
- However, he also used England as an example of separation of powers



VOLTAIRE




Personified the skepticism of his century toward traditional religion and the injustices of the Old Regimes.

Underwent two imprisonments in the Bastille and even banishment to England for three years.

He popularized Newtonian science, fought for freedom of the press, and actively crusaded for religious freedom.

He turned out hundreds of histories, plays, pamphlets, essays, and novels.

- In addition to his estimated correspondence of 10,000 letters these works made him a celebrity in his own time



“This little globe, which is but a point, travels in space like many other globes; we are lost in the immensity. Man, about five feet high, is certainly a small thing in the universe. One of these imperceptible beings says to some of his neighbours, in Arabia or South Africa: ‘Listen to me, for the God of all these worlds has enlightened me. There are nine hundred million little ants like us on the earth, but my ant-hole alone is dear to God. All the others are eternally reprobated by him. Mine alone will be happy.’

They would then interrupt me, and ask who was the fool that talked all this nonsense.”

DENIS DIDEROT

The Encyclopedie

- declared the supremacy of new science
- denounced superstition
- expounded the merits of human freedom.

Contained critical articles on unfair taxes, the evils of the slave trade, and the cruelty of criminal laws.

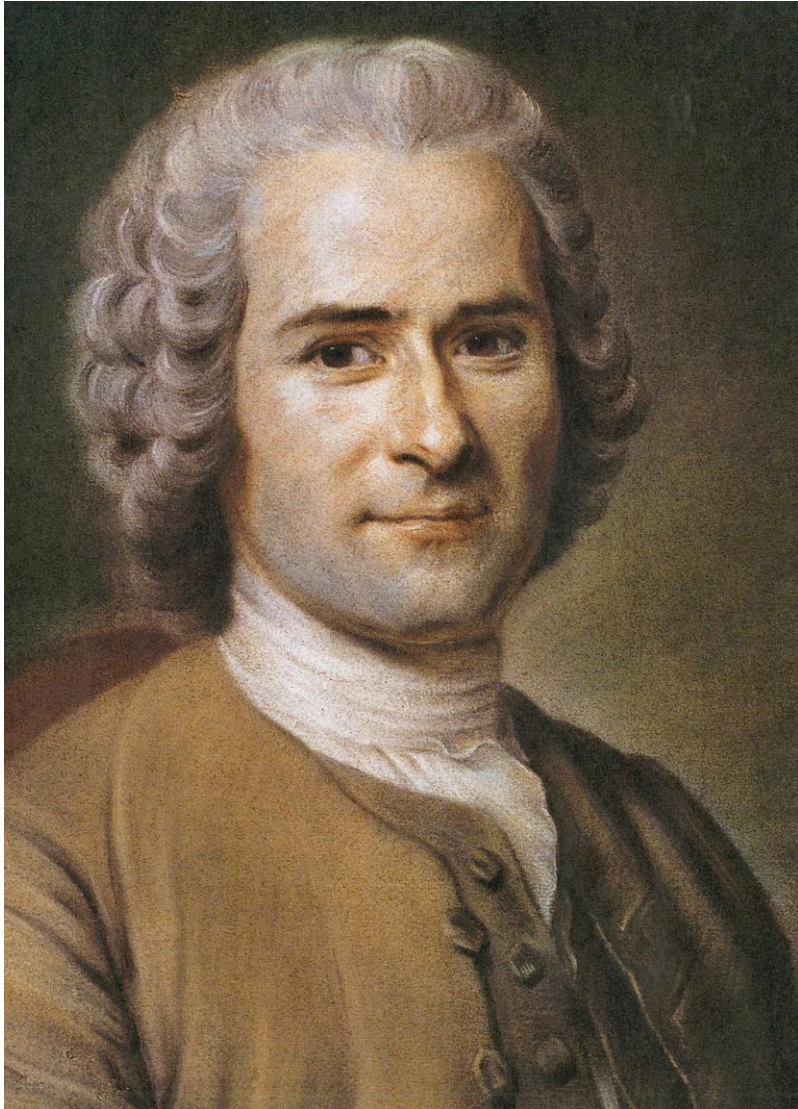
“This is a work that cannot be completed except by a society of men of letters and skilled workmen, each working separately on his own part, but all bound together solely by their zeal for the best interests of the human race and a feeling of mutual good will.”



ENCYCLOPÉDIE,
OU
DICTIONNAIRE RAISONNÉ
DES SCIENCES,
DES ARTS ET DES MÉTIERS,
PAR UNE SOCIÉTÉ DE GENS DE LETTRES.



THE LATE ENLIGHTENMENT



Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Swiss-born proponent of romantic rationalism

Early rebuffs from polite society encouraged his hatred for the Old Regime

He spoke as a rebel against all established institutions

Attempted to define the proper relationship between the individual and the group in society.

In *Discourse on the origins of the Inequality of Mankind*, he argued that people adopted laws to preserve property, but that it enslaved them to the government

THE SOCIAL CONTRACT (1762)

"Man is born free, but today he is everywhere in chains."

"... the social pact ... includes this engagement ... that whoever refuses to obey the general will shall be constrained to do so by the whole body; which means nothing else than that he shall be forced to be free..."

Do you see this today?

D U
CONTRACT SOCIAL;
O U
P R I N C I P E S
D U
D R O I T P O L I T I Q U E.
P A R J. J. R O U S S E A U,
C I T O I E N D E G E N E V E.
— *fœderis æquas*
Dicamus leges.



A AMSTERDAM,
Chez MARC MICHEL REY,
MDCCLXII



Argued for education and children's youth should foster natural instincts, connect emotion to reason

His own children were sent to orphanages

He also believed that all women should be educated only in their roles as mothers and wives to enable them to provide loving care for their husbands and children

- Not uncommon amongst male intellectuals who still held women to be naturally inferior

MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT



A Vindication of the Rights of Women

Argued that if “enlightened” thinkers understood that power of a monarch over its people was wrong...

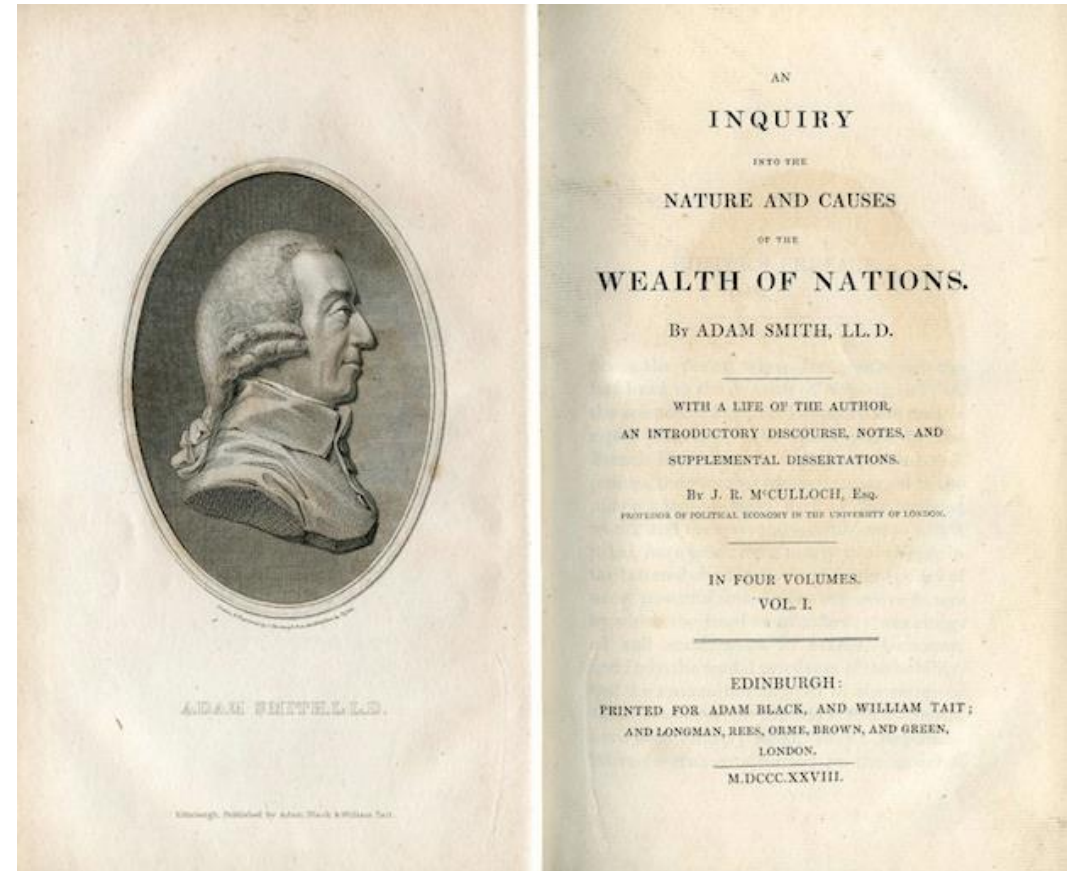
...then they should realize that power of men over women was equally wrong.


She argued that beings able to reason (including women) should have equal rights.

“I do not wish for [women] to have power over men; but over themselves.”

ADAM SMITH AND *THE WEALTH OF NATIONS*, 1776

- An economic philosopher, curious about natural law and economy
 - Part of the “Physiocrat” school of thought
 - If people are left to their own economic interests everyone would benefit
- Becomes known as “laissez-faire” economics
 - “Let to” or “to be left alone”
 - Government and economy must remain separate with the exception of those works necessary for commerce that individuals alone could not afford
 - i.e. roads and canals.



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1. Joint-Stock Company
 2. Mercantilism
 3. Favorable balance of trade
 4. Tariff
 5. Balance of Power
 6. Burgesses
 7. Constitution
 8. Cavaliers
 9. Roundheads
 10. Habeas Corpus

A/B STYLE

Due Friday



THE ENLIGHTENMENT AND THE ARTS

What is the role of art in society?

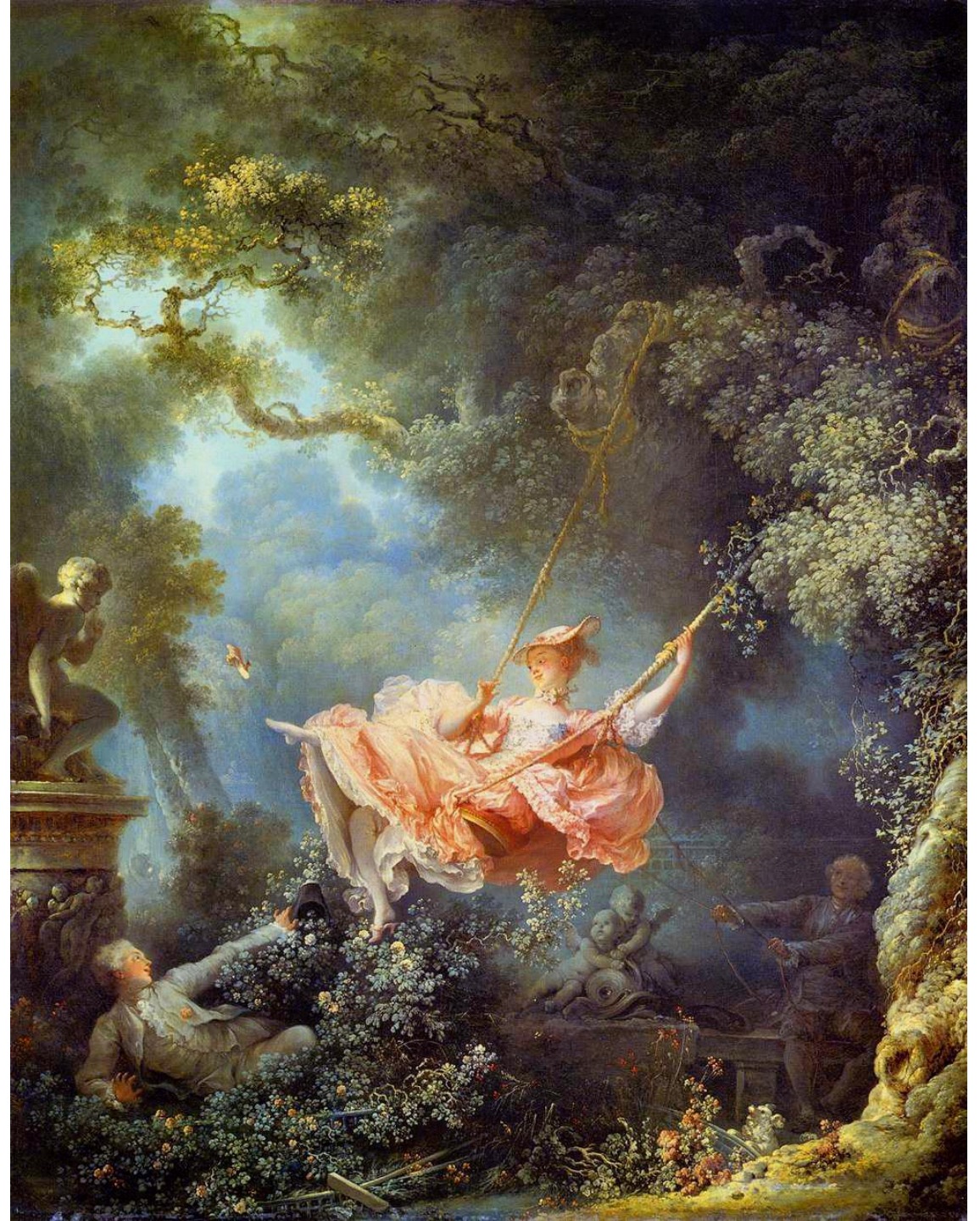
In a science and reason obsessed culture, what is the role of art?

What does it mean for something to be aesthetic?

Aesthetics: a set of principles concerned with the nature and appreciation of beauty, especially in art.

Rococo Art

Jean-Honoré Fragonard, *The Swing*, 1767



Élisabeth Vigée-Lebrun,
Marie Antoinette à la Rose, 1783



Elizabeth, artist unknown, 1600



William Hogarth, *A Rake's Progress* 1732-33



Dissenting opinions

"The function of art is to make virtue adorable and vice repugnant."

"Paint as though in Sparta."

— Diderot



Jacques Louis David, *The Death of Socrates*

NEOCLASSICAL ART

Jacques-Louis David, *Oath of the Horatii*,
1784

"Art must have grandeur and moral
purpose."

— J.-L. David



Joseph Wright of Derby, *A Philosopher Giving A Lecture at the Orrery*, c. 1765

Wright invented a new subject: scenes of experiments and new machinery, and the beginnings of the Industrial Revolution





Vincent François André , *The Ploughing Lesson*.

- Other artists turned to depictions of everyday life
- Middle class virtues and serious behavior were “natural,” compared to the artificial lifestyles of the court.
- Nature becomes fashionable



MUSIC

The Enlightenment saw the incorporation of new themes and purposes for music, as well as new instruments.

Music becomes democratized- the advent of public concerts;

The growing middle class sought entertainment and, unlike the peasantry of prior centuries, they could afford it.

Music was no longer to be for the private amusement of a privileged few.



JOSEPH HAYDN (1732-1809)



- Invented new ways to indulge large audiences with music that demanded greater attention.
 - He often incorporated a narrative theme and effects like contrast, subtlety, suspense and climax.
- Haydn would also evoke democracy with another musical invention: the string quartet.
 - The German philosopher Goethe said Haydn's string quartets resembled "four civilized persons holding a conversation."

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

- Mozart began his career as a servant to the Archbishop of Salzburg
- But Mozart's travels to England and France had exposed him to the ideals of independence and equality
- Mozart found greater freedom in Vienna, where he supported himself with public concerts and commissions, and through teaching engagements
 - "The Marriage of Figaro" epitomized the new ways of thinking by giving servants a central role



HANDEL

Wrote famous operas, oratorios, and concerti grossi

- Featured large choirs with competing voices

The Messiah (his most famous oratorio)

- Oratorio: Like an opera, but not musical theater, just a concert piece with a story backing it
- An immediate success, popular with king and commoner alike

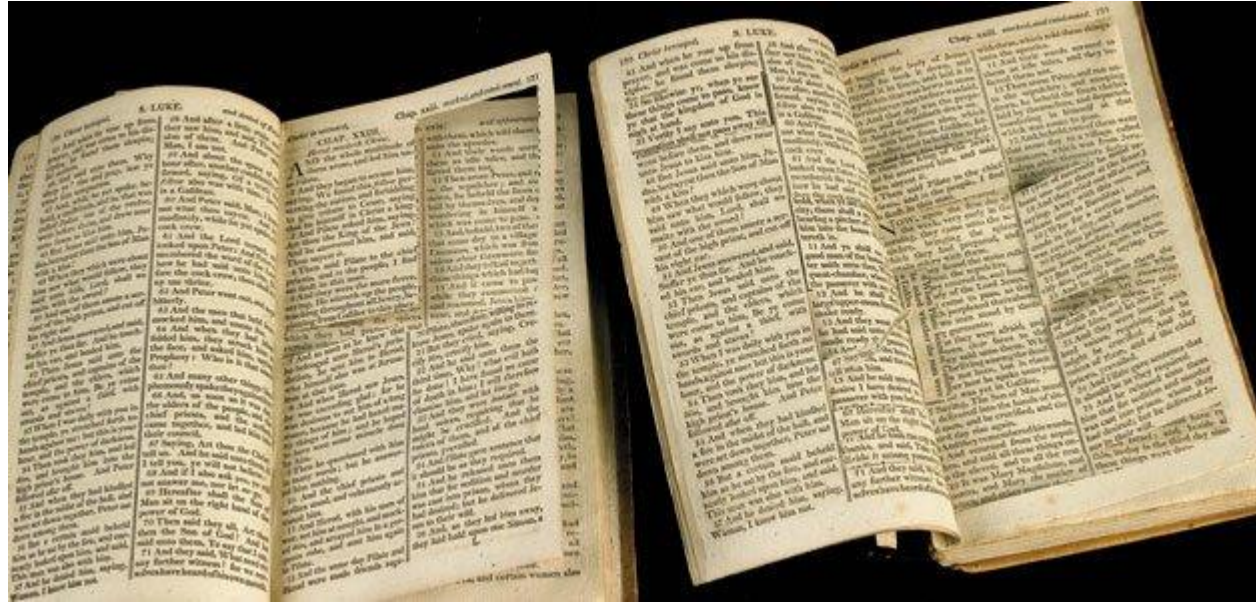


RELIGION AND THE ENLIGHTENMENT



- **Methodism**
 - Led by John Wesley, an Anglican minister
 - Preached in open fields and homes, wherever an assembly could gather
 - Moved constantly, preaching several times a day
- **Appealed to the lower classes**
 - Focus on social action gave people a sense of purpose and community
 - Stressed hard work and spiritual contentment as opposed to political equality
 - Wesley tried “to lower religion to the lowest people’s capacities.”

DEISM



- Belief in God the Creator, with no reference to the Bible or any other miraculous source.
- Instead, Deist relies solely on personal reason to guide their creed.
- Thomas Jefferson in the *Jefferson Bible* dropped any passages dealing with miracles, visitations of angels, and the resurrection of Jesus after his death.
 - He tried to extract the practical Christian moral code of the New Testament



ENLIGHTENED ABSOLUTISM

Three case studies

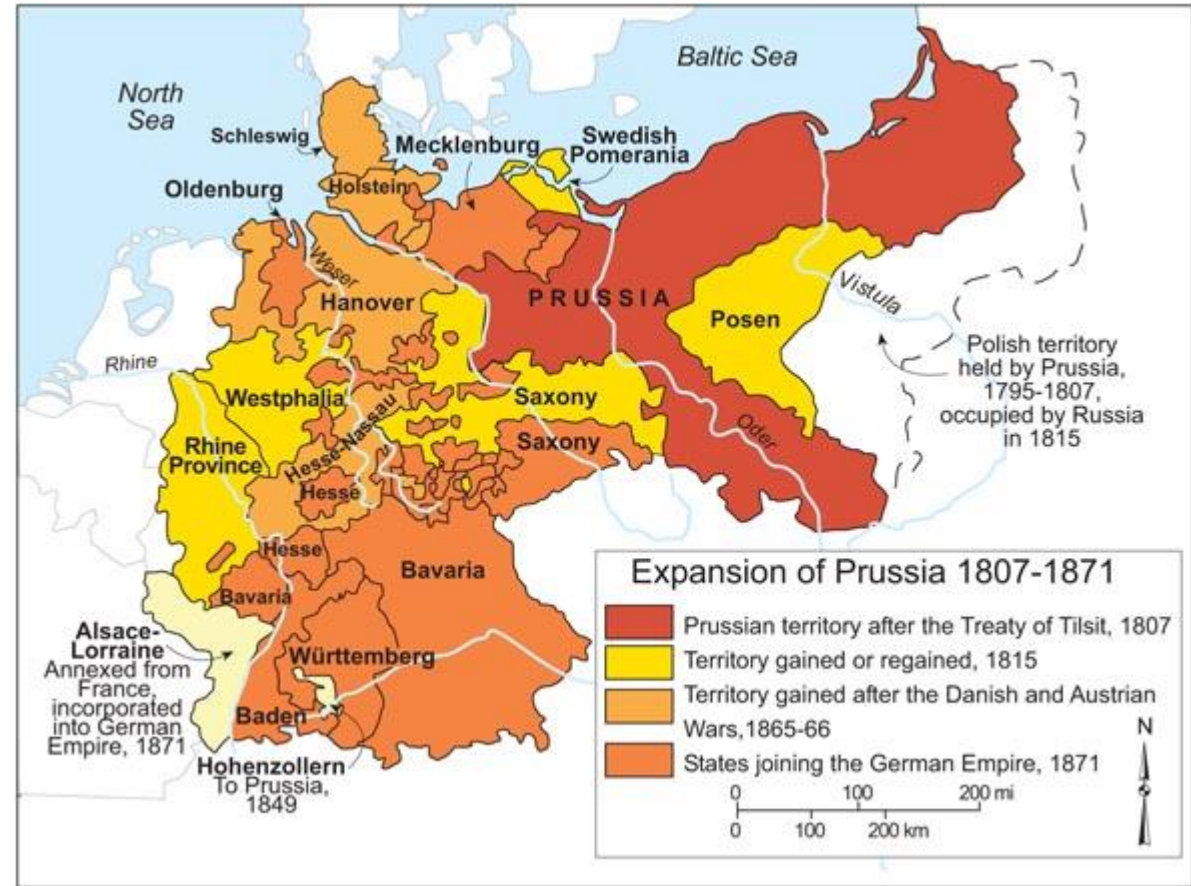
IMMANUEL KANT

- “Dare to know! Have the courage to use your own understanding.”
- Argued for the importance of freedom
- However, makes a distinction between intellectual and civil freedom
 - “Argue as much as you like and about whatever you like, but obey!”
 - Referencing an ideal of Enlightened Absolutism, or Enlightened Despotism
- Prussian, 1724-1804



PRUSSIA

- Fredrick William I: “One must serve the king with life and limb...and surrender all except salvation.”
- Major concern was the army
 - Doubled it during his reign to the 4th largest in Europe despite Prussia being 13th in size
 - Members of nobility served as officers
- Economy remained based in feudalism and serfdom



FREDERICK THE GREAT



- King of Prussia from 1740-1786
- Spent youth studying philosophy and the arts
- Upon rising to power he continued building the army but also undertook social reforms
- The case for Enlightenment:
 - Friends with Voltaire
 - Granted freedom of press, speech, religious tolerance
 - Called himself the “first servant of the State”
 - Abolished torture except in cases of treason or murder
- The not quite so Enlightened
 - Serfdom and social order remained intact
 - Oppressive towards conquered Polish subjects (plus the fact that he kept conquering people)

AUSTRIAN EMPIRE

- The remnants of the Holy Roman Empire, a diverse collection of states
- Ruled by Maria Theresa
 - Centralized and strengthened the state
 - Limited social reforms
 - Had 16 children
- Her son Joseph II attempted to instigate reform
 - “I have made Philosophy the lawmaker of my empire”
 - Enacted thousands of laws abolishing death penalty, serfdom, enacted religious toleration and equality before the law.
 - All failed. His epitaph read: “here lies Joseph II who failed in almost everything he did”



RUSSIA



- Catherine the Great, a German, took over after her husband's disposal.
- Enjoyed discussing social and political issues
 - Invited Diderot to Russia, purchased a copy of the Encyclopedie
 - Corresponded with Voltaire
 - Modernized Russia
 - Founded a school for girls and a medical collage
- However, focus was on securing Russia and expanding its borders
 - Favored nobility
 - Expanded borders
 - Little to no actual reform

TO REVIEW

Hobbes

- Lived through English Civil War
- Humans are equal according to natural law, which leads to competition and conflict

Locke

- Saw the end of the English Civil War and Glorious revolution
- Humans are equal according to natural law which leads to a state of freedom
- Governments can be reformed by the will of the people
- Legislative and executive powers must be separate

Montesquieu

- Ideal governments are relative to their size
- Establishing three separate powers
 1. Executive
 2. Legislative
 3. Judicial

Rousseau

- Citizens sacrifice freedoms for security
- A social contract (constitution) brought about by the will of the majority ushers others into freedom as well



Denis Diderot

- Edited the Encyclopedie
- A compilation of Enlightenment thought meant to dispel superstition and instigate improvement to society

Voltaire

- Popularized the Enlightenment through Plays, novels, letters
- Argued for freedom of speech and religion



Adam Smith

- Applied natural law to economics
- Identified capitalism as the future
- Laissez-faire: Free market economy, limited government interference

Mary Wollstonecraft

- Used Enlightenment thinking to argue for women's social and political equality



Methodism

- Hard work (your methods) brings about contentment, leads to salvation.

Deists

- God got the whole thing started, but has since been hands off