

# The Enlightenment

Monday, November 07, 2005

14:31

- **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
    - Philosophers applied reason to social, political, and economic issues
    - Rejected authority
      - Demanded proof
  - o Centered in France but elsewhere also
    - Read worldwide
  - o **Philosophes** - French philosophers
- **Characteristics**
  - o Belief in **natural law** and **natural rights**
  - o Emphasis on reason, science, proof
    - Skeptical of tradition, authority, censorship
  - o Sense of progress
    - *"To make future better than the present"*
  - o Rejection of superstition
    - End to witchcraft
  - o Critical of organized religion
  - o *Rejected original sin*
  - o **Deism**
    - God exists; not atheist
    - God = first cause
    - Man doesn't need the church to promise him salvation
    - God not necessarily a loving God; ONLY an intellectual concept
    - **"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)
    - Confined to the philosophes
  - o **Religious fervor** remained
    - **Pietism**
      - Northern Germany
      - Purify Lutheranism (more personal religion)
      - "Inner spirit" not reason
    - **Methodism**
      - John Wesley 1703-1791
      - Against gambling, drinking, dancing
      - *Great Awakening* in America (revival of religion)
    - **Mystification**
      - J. C. Lavater
      - Study facial expression and figure out character
    - **Mesmerism**
      - Anton F. Mesmer 1734- 1815
      - Try to hypnotize patients
      - Not scientific
      - "Quack doctor"
    - **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*"
  - Spread ideas of the Enlightenment
  - Wrote for the public (fun, comical, pleasant)
- Met in **salons**
  - "cocktail parties" / "book club"
  - Meetings in homes of prominent women where philosophes gathered and discussed issues
- Advocated reform, not revolution
- Ideas varied

# Enlightenment

Thursday, October 14, 2004

07:09

## 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:)
  - Government
  - Religion
  - Economics
  - Education
  - Law
- Most of them:
  - Valued equality
  - Supported political freedom
  - Advocated religious tolerance
  - Criticized organized church
  - Opposed to superstition, war, slavery
  - Opposed to censorship
- **Salon**
  - ... Like a cocktail party where women invited philosophes and listened to them
  - Social meetings / parties (book club)
  - Invited philosophes
  - Spread ideas of philosophes

**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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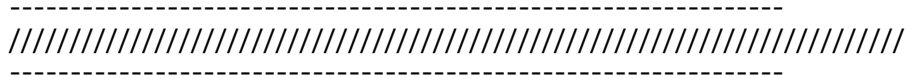
Founding fathers changed Property to Pursuit of happiness

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## **SOCIAL SCIENTIST:**

- *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, 1690
  - To find out how we learn what we learn
  - "Tabula Rasa" - mind is an "erased tablet"
    - 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**



Similar to Locke:

- -----
- 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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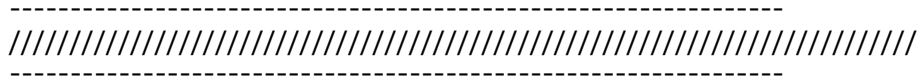


- **Social contract**
  - o Agreement to form government
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- **STATE OF NATURE:**
  - o Low opinion of state of nature
  - o Nasty, brutish, quarrelsome and short tempered
  - o Chaos Chaos Chaos Chaos
  - o BAD, people scared and insecure
  - o No capacity 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

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

## VOLTAIRE

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Pen Name:	Voltaire
Real Name:	Francois Marie Arouet
Profession:	Royal historian to Louis XV
Social Class:	Middle Class - <b>Bourgeois</b>
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
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- 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**
  - Need strong government
  - People too stupid to rule themselves
  - 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:

- Source of problems = nobility
- Get rid of titles of nobility
- Opposed to slavery
- 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"**
  - 28 Volumes
  - Had pictures, and diagrams
  - Each article written by different author (60,000)
  - Very subjective - opinionated, **biased**
  - Banned by church
    - Sold even more
    - Sold 20,000 copies
  - To spread ideas of the Enlightenment
- Exposed evils of society
  - Torture
  - War
  - Slavery
- 
- Supported
  - Free speech
  - Education
- **Critical of**
  - **Absolute monarchy**
  - **Organized religion**
  - 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 (end of the enlightenment)

<b>Nationality:</b>	Swiss, most life in France
<b>Social Class:</b>	<u>Very poor</u> ; misfit (not very popular) Sold his kids and wife (made some cash) Paranoid
<b>Publications:</b>	" <b>Emile</b> " - life, education ( <b>empirical</b> ) " <b>Confessions</b> " - society (1782) " <b>Social Contract</b> " - government
<b>Religion:</b>	Catholic / Protestant ( <b>Religious</b> ) <u>Not deist</u> Tolerant Believed in empiricism
<b>Political Views:</b>	<b>Most democratic</b> Man is capable of ruling himself <u>Faith in common man</u> Government should reflect the " <b>general will</b> " - majority Pure democracy - everyone would directly participate <u>Separation of powers</u> Some participation
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>	Thought women lack ability Wanted everyone to lead a simple life – non centered on materialistic things Thought purpose of education was to make one self-reliant Opposed progress Admired 'Noble Savage' - a person who leads a simple life and has good human qualities  - Emotion and instinct together essential to freedom - <u>His mentor was Diderot</u> - Man was happy when things were simple - ( <b>modern society made man miserable</b> ) - <u>Voltaire hated him</u> - - <u>Society corrupts man</u> ( <b>Fundamental Principle</b> )

## ROUSSEAU

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### Chapter 5.1

#### Life:

- 1712 - 1778
- Social critic
- Misfit
- Unlike other philosophes
  - o VERY POOR
    - 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... but 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
-

## - Enlightened Arts

### o Rococo

- *18th Century*
- **Louis XV** Style
- **Because:** after Louis XIV died, court moved back to Paris
- **Name:** *rocaille*, "rock work"
- Reaction against the formal baroque style (Louis XIV)
  - Baroque = religious, Counter-Reformation
  - Flowed out of Baroque
- Final phase of baroque
- Ornate, but light (less heavy)
- New taste for more delicate decorations
  - Suitable for smaller and more intimate interiors of town houses
- Not religious
- Denoting the frivolous over-elaboration
- **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
- **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 closes
      - ◇ 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

### o **Opera**

- Began to decline
- Criticized by philosophes

# Enlightened Monarchy

Friday, November 11, 2005

09:49

## - **Enlightened Monarchy and Benevolent Despotism**

### o Growth of Monarchy

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

Friday, November 11, 2005

09:49

## - **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**

- centralized the state
    - included Hungary under controls
    - est. German as single language of the gov't
    - civil servant
      - arranged for training courses
      - provided retirement pensions
      - established efficiency reports and inspections
    - secret police
  - Established education system (primary through university)
  - **FAILED; could not do it all by himself**
    - opposition from *nobles, church, Hungary* and Bel.
    - too few middle class to help support
    - Leopold (brother) undid most of Joseph's reforms
- **Frederick the Great (Prussia; r. 1740 – 1786)**
- **Background / Beliefs**
    - didn't get along with father
    - became cynical
    - became a soldier
    - married but never consummated
    - invaded Silesia (War of Austrian Succession) Broke Pragmatic Sanction
    - very ill (porphyria)
    - read philosophes, corresponded, ran a salon, fought with Voltaire
    - wrote history: anti Machiavelli
    - interested in music; played flute, wrote sonatas and concertos
    - Protestant/Lutheran
  - **Devoted to his subjects**
    - His job to make people happy, without giving up power
  - against sweeping change
    - wise, moderate, *reasonable*
  - encouraged crop rotation
  - **Administrative reforms**
    - "*1<sup>st</sup> servant of the state*"
    - codified laws
    - abolished capital punishment
    - reformed courts (cheaper, increased efficiency, honesty)
    - built up the civil service; est. civil service exam
      - never relegated any real authority (attended to all business himself)
  - **Religious reforms**
    - some religious reform but
      - Prussia already docile and Lutheran church subordinate to state
      - intolerant of Jews
  - **Social reforms**
    - some free elementary education for all
    - 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

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



# Economics / Physiocrats

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

11:17

## 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](#)