

ENLIGHTENMENT INFLUENCES



I <3 Social Studies | Educational resources



THINK PAIR SHARE

Work with the person next to you, on a scrap piece of paper, **define** the word:

Enlightened

THE ENLIGHTENMENT

C. 1620 – 1780

Intellectual rebirth of reason, analysis, and individualism

Philosophes met in coffee houses, salons, and other gathering areas to discuss ideas

Increase in literacy enabled spread of ideas

France and Britain prospered: Diderot, Descartes, Bayle, Vico, Kant, Newton, Locke, Voltaire...

Shift from Monarch controlled thinking to rise of individualism

Greatly impacted United States Government



An Experiment on a Bird in the Air Pump - 1786

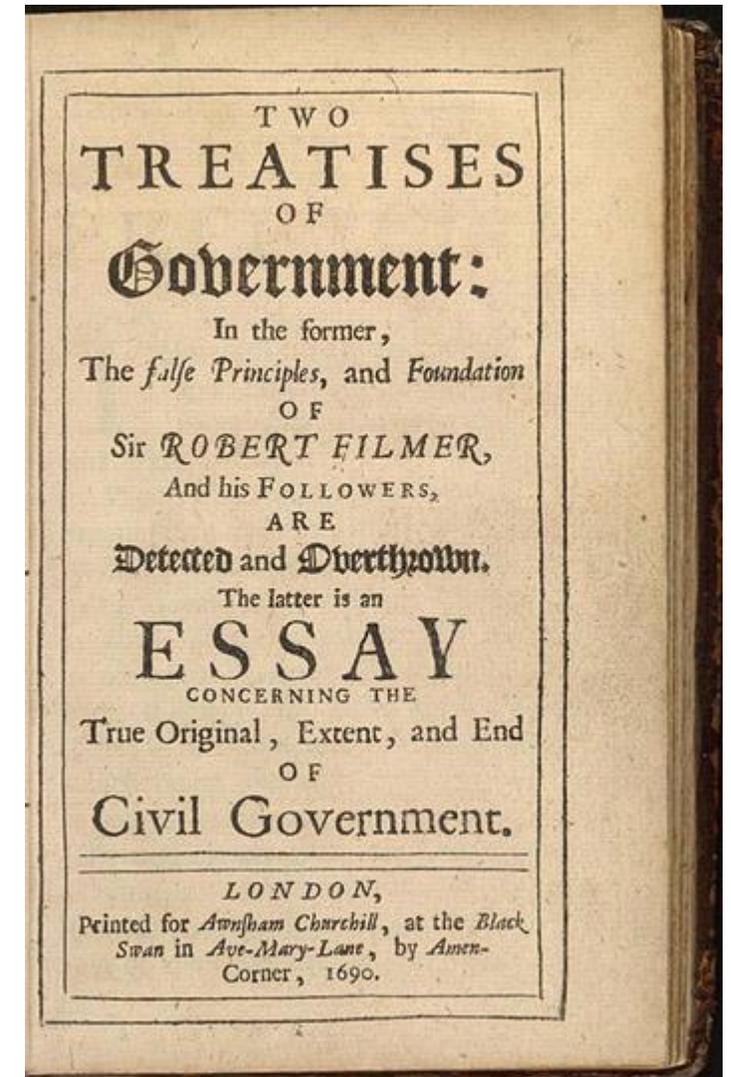
JOHN LOCKE

Author of *Two Treatises of Government* and *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding* as well as several other books and manuscripts.

Natural Rights Theory – Life, Liberty,
(private) Property

Social Contract Theory

- Power of government comes from the consent of the people
- Governments can be overthrown if abusive



VOLTAIRE

Real name – Francois Marie Arouete

As reflected in *Dictionnaire Philosophique* (1764) Voltaire advocated **freedom of speech and religious toleration**, key ideas found in the 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

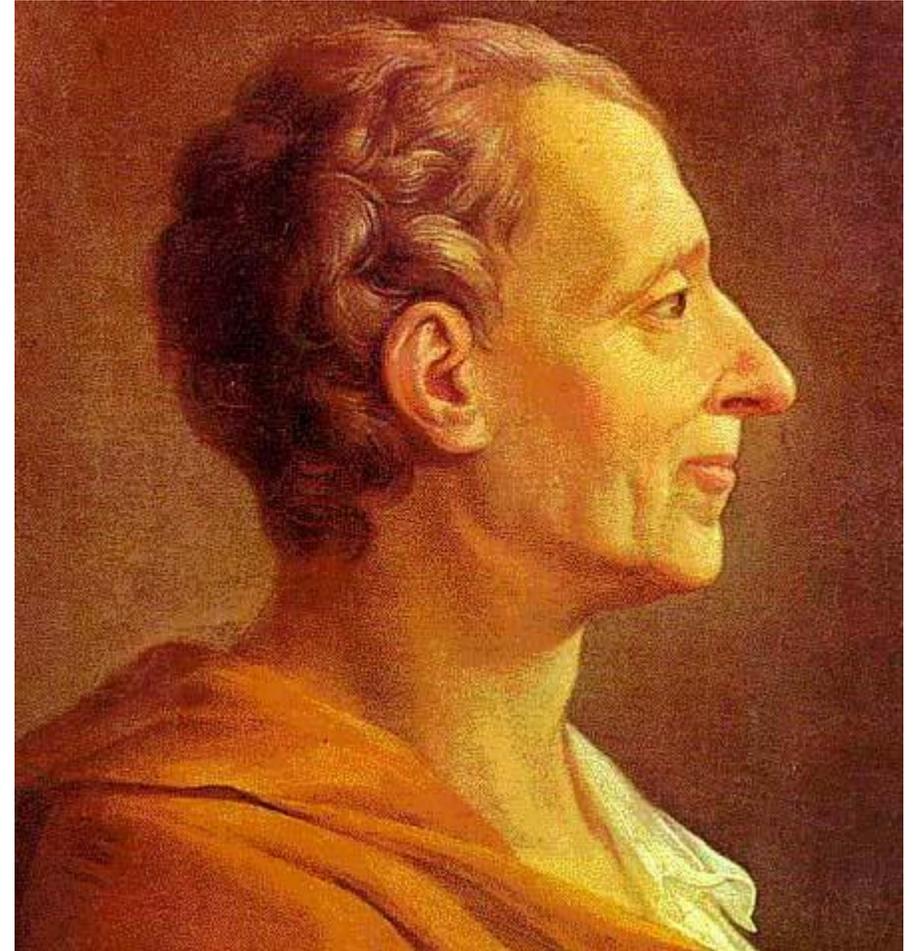
Authored numerous essays, books, and plays on history and philosophy; his writing utilized satire to criticize the French government to the extent that he was imprisoned and exiled to England.



MONTESQUIEU

Montesquieu supported the English form of government and advocated separation of powers within government as a means to keep certain levels from becoming too powerful.

On the Spirit of Laws (1748) prompted the inclusion of **separation of powers** and **checks and balances** within the U.S. federal system



ROUSSEAU

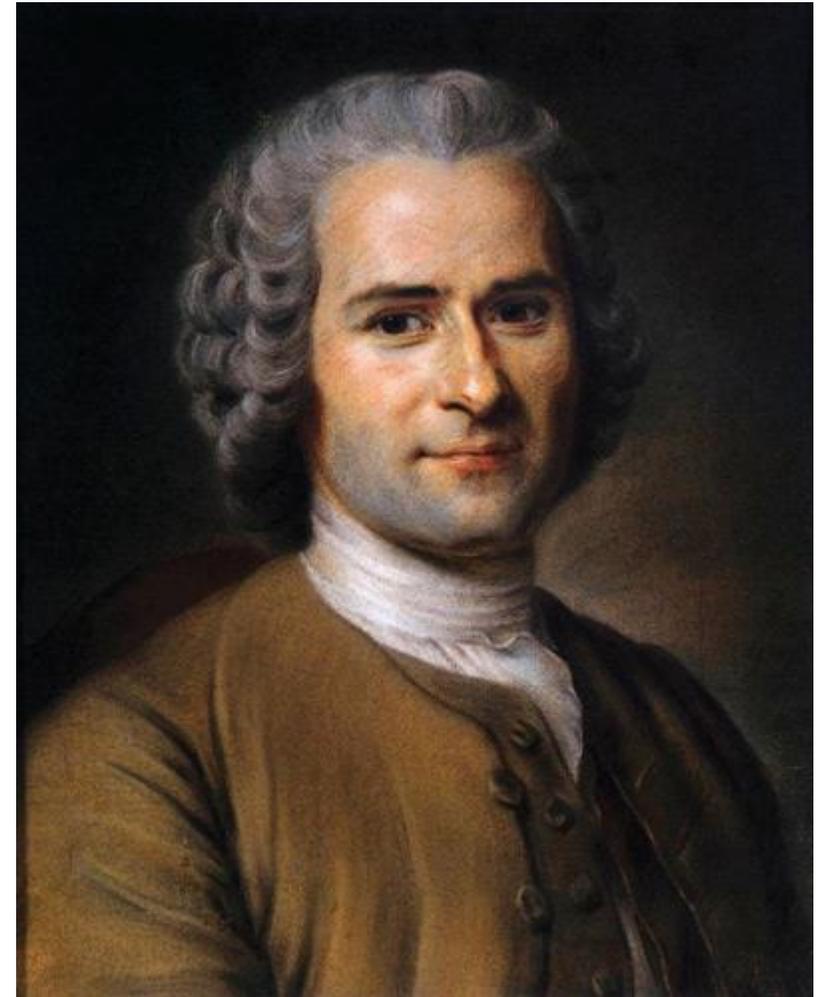
Similar to Locke, Rousseau's work also focused on natural rights and the construction of civil society.

In *The Social Contract* (1762) Rousseau argued society corrupted individual natural goodness.

More “liberal” than Locke – civic participation is a must

Rousseau's version of the social contract advocated a direct democracy in which **individuals give up a limited number of rights for the common good.**

- Example: I like to drive fast, but I don't because it is not for the common good.



Enlightenment Thinker

John Locke

Voltaire

Montesquieu

Rousseau

MAJOR IDEAS

Natural Rights Theory - **Life, Liberty, Property**
Rulers (Monarchs) may not deny these rights.

Freedom of Speech - "I may not agree with what you say, but I will defend to my death your right to say it!"

Limited Government - **Separate government into branches so no one authority has too much power; Checks and Balances.**

Social Contract - **People agree to be governed by a government they create. Voting is an essential principle.**

English Bill of Rights

Glorious Revolution: William and Mary accept Bill of Rights
Overthrow James II & Catholic Rule = Toleration exists

- No new taxes without consent
- Freedom of Speech
- Right to Bear Arms
- No Cruel/Unusual Punishment
- No Standing Army in Peace

The United States' Bill of Rights is modeled after the English Bill of Rights

COLONY

Virginia

Connecticut

Pennsylvania

Massachusetts

GOVERNMENT

House of Burgesses

Fundamental Orders

Frame of
Government

Mayflower Compact
and Town Hall
Meetings

CONTRIBUTION TO GOVERNMENT

Representative Government - Voting
-Created Laws & Regulated trade (tobacco)
-Equal representation (22 total - 2 from each
of the 11 settlements of VA)

Constitution - Rules/Plan of Government is
documented.
-Separation of Church and State
-Removal of officials who did not perform their
duties effectively

Religious freedom for all (toleration)
-Ruled by elected assembly
-Multiple (4) changes are made to
keep it modern

Agree to be governed by self-created
rules
-Free, white males could vote
-Direct democracy