

## Transparency 14

### Enlightenment Thinkers

	Locke	Montesquieu	Rousseau
<b>Important Ideas</b>	<p>People have certain natural rights, including liberty, life, and ownership of property.</p> <p>Government can be justified by protecting human rights better than an individual could without the government.</p> <p>If the government does not do a good job of protecting rights of citizens, citizens have a right to find new rulers.</p>	<p>Political freedom should be advanced by separating powers into legislative, executive, and judicial.</p> <p>Each branch of government should be able to check the power of the other branches.</p>	<p>People are naturally good, but are corrupted by society.</p> <p>Controls on people are important, but should be minimal.</p> <p>The good of the community should be placed above individual interests.</p> <p>Faith in “general will”</p>
<b>In Their Own Words</b>	<p>“the power of the Society, or [Legislature] constituted by them, <i>can never be suppos’d to extend farther than the common good.</i>”</p> <p><i>Two Treatises on Government</i></p>	<p>“. . . in order for [the citizen] to have [political] liberty the government must be such that one citizen cannot fear another citizen.”</p> <p><i>The Spirit of Laws</i></p>	<p>“. . . whoever refuses to obey the general will shall be compelled to do so by the whole body. This means nothing less than that he will be forced to be free. . .”</p> <p><i>The Social Contract</i></p>