

Political Spectrum and Ideologies

Discussion

What rules or laws affect you?

chores

What rules do we have at school?

chores
phones
not skipping
respectful

What would life be like without rules?



Discussion

Who makes the rules or laws?

Government
Monarchies
Religious Figures
Chiefs
School boards
parents
teachers
UN
Global Bodies

What influences the law makers?

Protest - movements
Money / corporations
Values



Political
Spectrum
Activity

Where are you on
the political
spectrum?





Political Spectrum

- The **political spectrum** is a range of political beliefs visually represented on a line.
 - This is where the expressions “**Right, Left, and Centrist/Moderates Politics**” comes from.
 - We can use the spectrum to compare political ideologies (core political beliefs, values, ideas) AND political parties.
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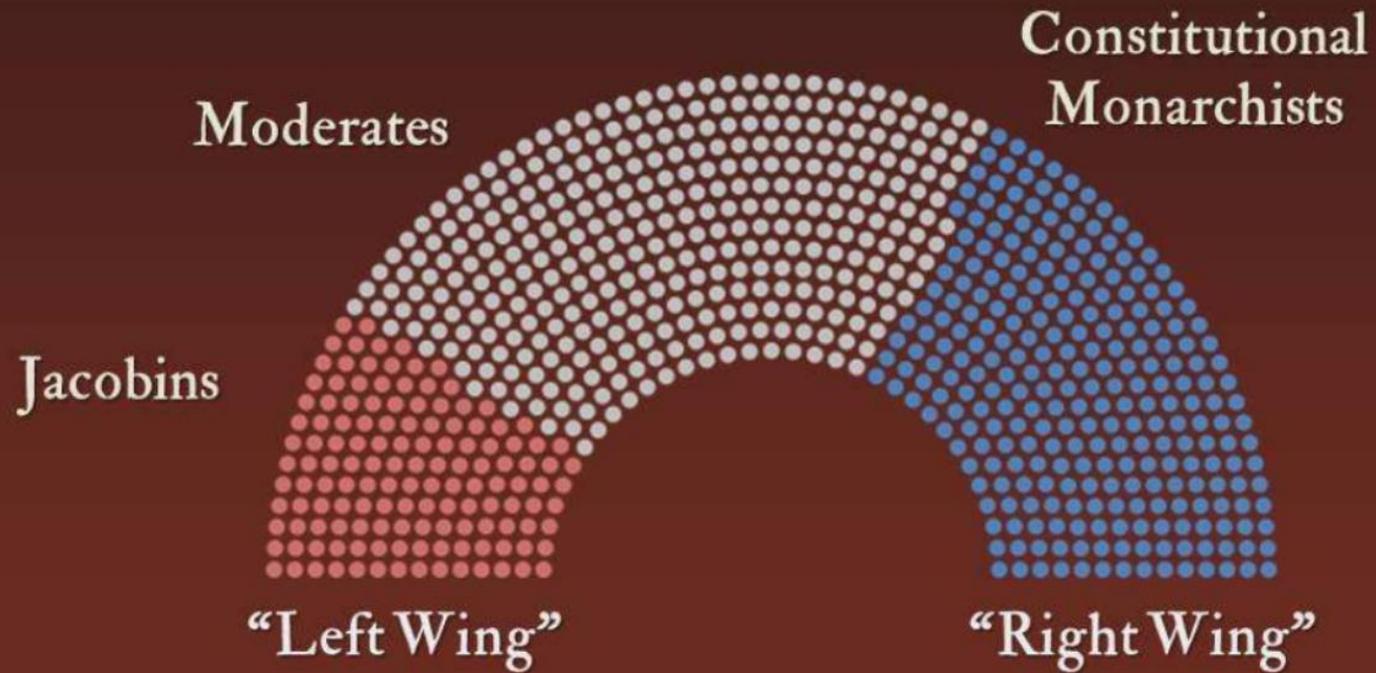
Political Spectrum

Left wing-----Center-----Right wing

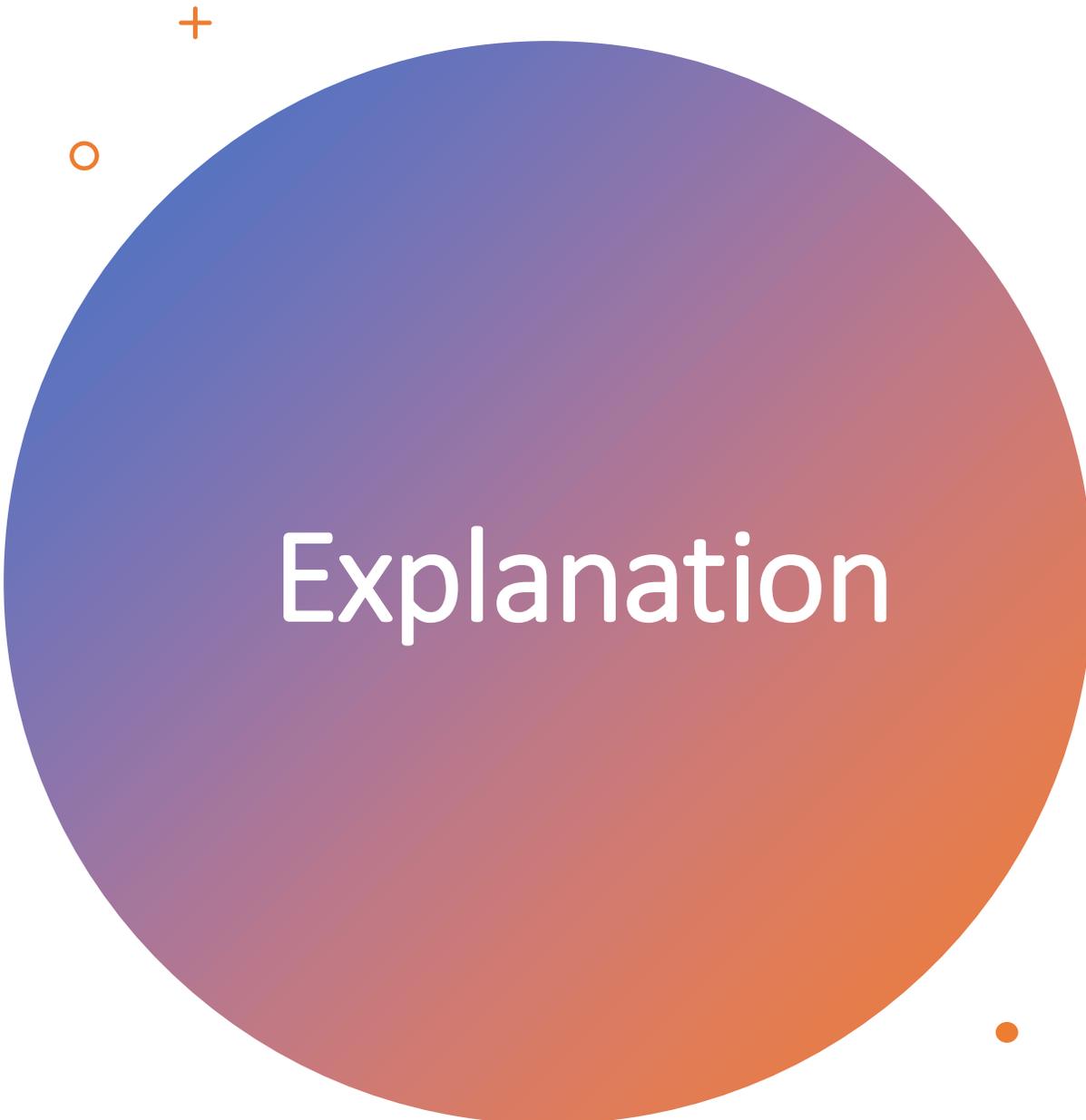


LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1791-1792



French
Revolution
1789-1799



Explanation

- **Left Wing:** Believes in more government action to create fairness. Supports higher taxes on the rich and programs to help people.
 - **Centrist/Moderate:** Combines ideas from both sides. Supports some government help but also values personal responsibility and lower taxes.
 - **Right Wing:** Believes in less government and more “traditional values”. Supports lower taxes and less government control over businesses.
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IDEOLOGIES

DEFINITION:

- Ideologies are sets of ideas and beliefs about how society should work and how a government should make decisions.
- They help explain what people think is fair, how resources should be shared, and what role the government should have.

Can you name any ideologies?

Ideologies on the Political Spectrum

Left wing - - - - - Center - - - - - Right wing



- A = Communism
- B = Socialism
- C = Liberalism
- D = Conservatism
- E = Fascism



COMMUNISM

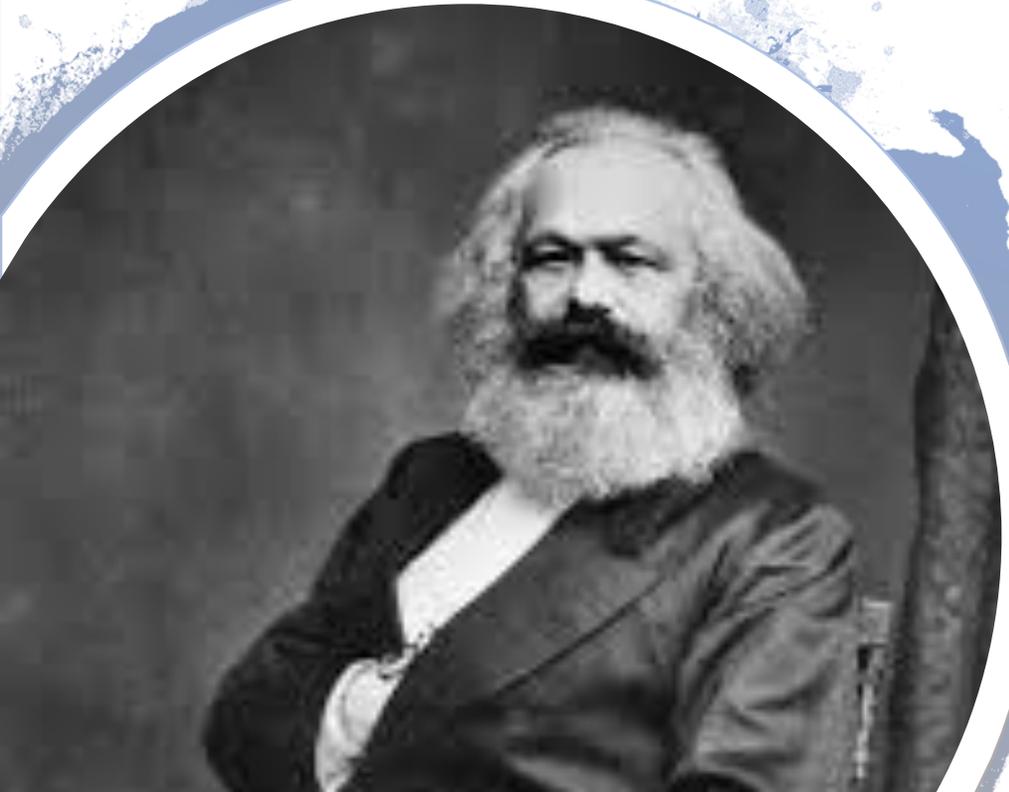
Definition:

A political and economic system aiming for a classless society where all property is shared and everyone is equal.

Key Features

- No private property; everything shared
- Classless society (no rich or poor)
- Government controls economy and resources
- Limited individual rights
- Heavy censorship of media and information

Examples: Cuba, China, USSR





SOCIALISM

Definition: An economic and political system that promotes strong government involvement to reduce inequality and provide public services.

Key Features:

- Often democratic
- Strong government role in the economy
- Universal social services (healthcare, education, welfare)
- Supports labour unions and workers' rights



Examples: NDP (Canada), Sweden/Norway

Liberal

LIBERALISM

Definition: A political ideology that supports individual freedoms, democratic governance, and an open market economy.

Key Features:

- Promotes social progress through voting and legal reform (not revolution)
- Advocates business and free/open markets
- Supports some social services (e.g., healthcare)



Examples: Liberal Party Canada, US under Biden



CONSERVATISM

Definition: A political ideology that emphasizes tradition, stability, and limited government involvement, especially in the economy.

Key Features:

- Small government interference, particularly in business
- Opposes major or radical changes
- Favors traditional policies, family values, and gender roles
- Supports corporations over unions
- Advocates for a strong military

Examples: Conservative Party of Canada, (moderate) Republicans USA





FASCISM

Definition: An authoritarian, nationalist ideology that demands absolute loyalty to a dictator and the state

Key Features

- Dictator with total power
- Extreme nationalism and obedience
- Militaristic; aims for conquest
- Traditional gender roles
- Heavy propaganda; control of media and education

Examples: Germany under Hitler, North Korea



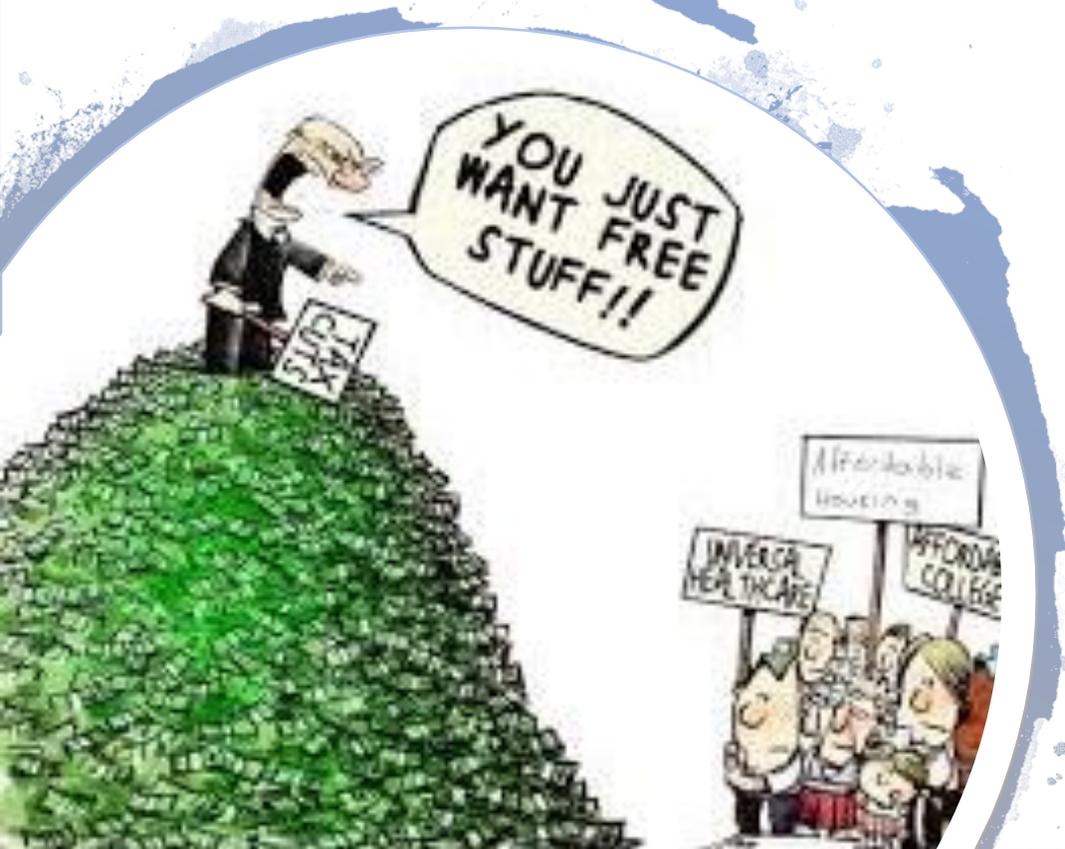


CAPITALISM

Economic system where trade, industry, and production are privately owned for profit

Key features:

- Private property
- Competitive markets
- Wage labor
- Wealth accumulation by businesses and corporations





DEMOCRACY

Definition:

A system of government where power is shared by the people, and leaders are chosen through free elections.

Key Features

- Citizens share power
- Majority participates in decision-making
- Leaders elected by the people
- Anyone can run for office
- Rights and freedoms protected

