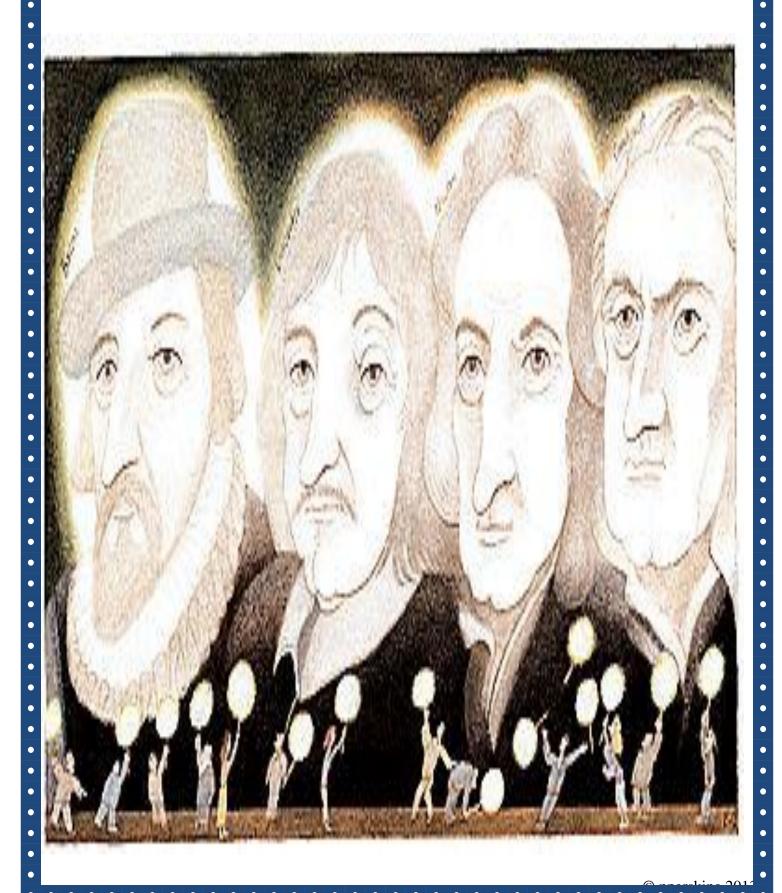
Enlightenment Thinkers Handout



	ENLIGHTENMENT THINKERS					
Name, Country & Title of work	Views on Life & Human Nature	Views on Government & Economy	Impact of Philosopher			
Thomas Hobbes (England) Leviathan	 People are naturally cruel, greedy, & selfish People need control and a social contract - agreement to give up the state of nature for an organized society 	 Need a powerful govn't to control people or they would fight, rob, & oppress one another Yes to absolute monarchy Govn't control of economy 	Society needs some form of government			
John Locke (England) Two Treaties of Government	 People are basically reasonable and moral People have <u>natural rights</u> – rights that belong to all humans at birth (life, liberty, property) 	 Govn't formed to protect natural rights Best govn't form has limited power and is accepted by all citizens Rejected monarchy and sided w/ Parliament People have the right to overthrow the govn't if it fails it's obligations or violates people's natural rights - Supports revolution 	Ideas on Natural right – life, liberty, property was a fundamental influence on the US Declaration of Independence			
The Baron de Montesquieu (France) On the Spirit of the Laws	power needs to be balanced so that individuals do not abuse power (people are greedy)	Republican form of govn't is BEST (supports limited or no monarchy) Division of power into 3 branches (Executive, Legislative, Judiciary) to protect liberty There needs to be a system of checks and balances	France, US, & Latin American nations all used separation of powers in new constitutions			
Voltaire (France) - various-	 Wrote about the abuses against humanity (inequality, injustice, superstition) Detested the slave trade Believed in religious freedom 	 Targeted corrupt officials & idle aristocrats He offended the govn't and church Defended freedom of speech "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." 	Ideas on freedom of thought and expression were Guaranteed in US Bill of Rights and French Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen Freedom of religion guaranteed in US Bill of Rights and French Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen Ideas influenced European monarchs to reduce or eliminate censorship and religious persecution			
Cesare Bonesana Beccaria (Italy) On Crimes and Punishments	 People should be treated fairly (no torture for criminals) No capital punishment 	 Laws exist to preserve social order, not to avenge crimes Governments should seek the greatest good for the greatest number of people 	 Ideas on the abolishment of torture influenced torture to be outlawed or reduced in nations of Europe and the Americas Abolishment of torture guaranteed in the US Constitution 			
Jean-Jacques Rousseau (France) The Social Contract	 people are basically good but become corrupted by evils of society (esp. unequal distribution of property) committed to individual freedom 	some control set by a freely formed govn't-are good in consenting to form a govn't, people give up self-interest in favor of the common good surrender rights to retain freedom favors good of whole over the individual freedom is obedience to the law He had a hatred of the political and economic oppression of the time	Idea that all people should be treated equal influenced US Declaration of Independence Ideas inspired leaders of the French Revolution			
Mary Wollstonecraft (England) A Vindication of the Rights of Woman	 Woman's first duty is to be a good mother Woman should decide what is in own best interest and not be completely dependent on husband 	called for equal education to ensure equal participation in public life	• influenced Women's Rights movements			

ENLIGHTENMENT THINKERS

NT.	L. Lie e H	NLIGHTENMENT THINKERS	T (CDI)
Name, Country & Title of work	Views on Life & Human Nature	Views on Government & Economy	Impact of Philosopher
Thomas Hobbes			
John Locke			
The Baron de Montesquieu			
Voltaire			
Cesare Bonesana Beccaria			
Jean-Jacques Rousseau			
Mary Wollstonecraft			