CHAPTER 17 SECTION 1

FACTORS THAT LED TO THE ENLIGHTENMENT
THE ROMAN EMPIRE DOMINATES EUROPE 27 BCE-476 CE
MAP OF EUROPEAN KINGDOMS AFTER THE ROMAN EMPIRE 979 CE
CHART EXPLAINING FEUDALISM

Feudal Pyramid of Power
1. SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION

- The SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION in EUROPE in the 1500’s and 1600’s advanced science, math, and astronomy. Scholars challenged the authority of the church by trying to explain how the universe works and was created, and this questioning of authority would lead to the ENLIGHTENMENT in the 1700’s.

- NATURAL LAW referred to anything that could be discovered by REASON and NOT FAITH, and by using the SCIENTIFIC METHOD (gravity)
3. ENLIGHTENMENT?

The term was first said by GERMAN PHILOSOPHER, IMMANUEL KANT, and he used it to describe how SCIENCE AND NATURAL LAW were being used to fix many problems of HUMANITY throughout the 1700’s.
2. HOBBES VS. LOCKE

- Two ENGLISH THINKERS during the 1600’s that had opposite views on PEOPLE’S RELATIONSHIP with GOVERNMENT.

- In a writing titled the LEVIATHAN, THOMAS HOBBES argued that people are CRUEL AND GREEDY and must be controlled by a STRONG GOVERNMENT in order to keep PEACE.

- JOHN LOCKE thought GOVERNMENT should have little power, protect the NATURAL RIGHTS of the people, and if they violated these, the people should OVERTHROW the government. (Two Treatises of Government 1690)
4. THE PHILOSOPHES (18\textsuperscript{th} CENTURY FRENCH THINKERS)

- **BARON de MONTESQUIEU** studied governments from ALL CONTINENTS dating back to the ANCIENT WORLD. He hated MONARCHIES and believed in 3 branches of government and CHECKS AND BALANCES.

- **VOLTAIRE** preached the value of FREE SPEECH and used WRITING to expose the CORRUPTION of the CHURCH, SLAVERY, AND POLITICIANS. He was EXILED.
“Fools have a habit of believing that everything written by a famous author is admirable. For my part I read only to please myself and like only what suits my taste.”

“I do not agree with what you have to say, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it.”
DENIS DIDEROT spread Enlightenment ideas by creating a 28 volume *ENCYCLOPEDIE* that included articles from many PHILOSOPHERS. The articles attacked monarchies and the church and they supported free speech and education for all. They were censored, but sold 4,000 copies worldwide.
THE ENCYCLOPEDIA
Jean-Jacques Rousseau was a PHILOSOPHE that believed people were NATURALLY GOOD, but became corrupted by SOCIETY.

In his SOCIAL CONTRACT he wrote that the interest of the COMMUNITY should guide GOVERNMENTS and these interests were more important than interests of the INDIVIDUAL.
7. WOMEN VS. THE PHILOSOPHES

- Women’s rights were limited to the family and home. ENLIGHTENMENT THOUGHT did not include their FREEDOM.

- A BRITISH WOMEN named MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT wrote A VINDICATION OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN and argued that women’s right to EDUCATION was the only thing that could give them EQUALITY.
8. ENLIGHTENMENT AND THE ECONOMY

- Adam Smith was a Scottish Economist.

- He thought Mercantilism (Government regulating all trade) hurt Economies, and instead, governments should rely on the Free Market that was linked to people’s Consumer Wishes.

- The will of the people created Supply and Demand, and this would grow businesses that were selling quality Products at a Reasonable Price.
9. SMITH AND LAISSEZ FAIRE

- SMITH argued in his *WEALTH OF NATIONS* that GOVERNMENT should not INTERFERE with BUSINESSES, but that they should make LAWS that protect the interests of the CONSUMER.

- Lack of GOVERNMENT REGULATION became known as LAISSEZ FAIRE (HANDS OFF) and this idea would lead to modern day CAPITALISM.

> “In spite of their natural selfishness and rapacity,” business people “are led by an invisible hand . . . and thus without intending it, without knowing it, advance the interest of the society . . .”