

absolutum dominium
total power

Who is in charge?

How do you decide who is in charge?

one person in charge
Autocracy

one person in charge

- **dictator**
–frequently takes control by force...but not all do
- **monarchy**
–**divine right**-God chooses a family to rule

group of people in charge
Oligarchy

group of people in charge

- **oligarchy**
 - usually a political or religious group rules
 - **theocracy** - rule by religious

the people are in charge

Democracy

the people are in charge

- **democracy**
 - “people rule”
 - **direct democracy**
 - all people vote on everything
 - **indirect democracy** (aka “representative democracy”)
 - people vote for representatives to vote for them

What will we be in charge of?

- **STATE**

**this is NOT like the state of Texas, denial, shock, etc...*

***in this case a "state" is more like what you think of when you think of a country*

4 REQUIREMENTS TO BE A STATE

1. Population
2. Area with a recognized geographic boundary
3. A government
4. **SOVEREIGNTY**
Ability to make and enforce a law without having to answer to a higher authority

precedent

- Decisions based on "what came before"

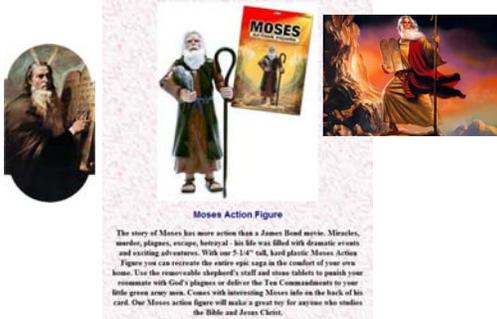
Hammurabi



Hammurabi

- **Code of Hammurabi (1770s BC) 282 rules**
- If a man has borne false witness in a trial, or has not established the statement that he has made, if that case be a capital trial, that man shall be put to death.
- If a man has stolen goods from a temple, or house, he shall be put to death; and he that has received the stolen property from him shall be put to death.
- If a man has knocked out the eye of a patrician, his eye shall be knocked out.

Moses



Moses

- **Ten Commandments**
- 1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- 2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image
- 3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain;
- 4. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- 5. Honour thy father and thy mother
- 6. Thou shalt not kill.
- 7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- 8. Thou shalt not steal.
- 9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
- 10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

William Blackstone



Blackstone

- man is created by God
- fundamental rights given by God
- man's law has to be based on God's law
- Commentaries on the Laws of England
 - idea of common law
 - law is created by judges and by previous decisions

How did we end up with a drinking age of 21?

In short, because of the National Minimum Drinking Age Act of 1984. This law basically told states that they had to enact a minimum drinking age of 21 or lose up to 10 percent of their federal highway funding. Since that's serious coin, the states jumped into line fairly quickly. Interestingly, this law doesn't prohibit drinking per se; it merely cajoles states to outlaw purchase and public possession by people under 21. Exceptions include possession (and presumably drinking) for religious practices, while in the company of parents, spouses, or guardians who are over 21, medical uses, and during the course of legal employment.

That answers the legal question, but what was the underlying logic?

Did lawmakers just pick 21 out of a hat because they wanted college seniors to learn the nuances of bar culture before graduation? Not quite. *The concept that a person becomes a full adult at age 21 dates back centuries in English common law; 21 was the age at which a person could, among other things, vote and become a knight. Since a person was an official adult at age 21, it seemed to make sense that they could drink then, too.*

Jean-Jacques Rosseau



Rousseau

“The most ancient of all societies, and the only one that is natural, is the family: and even so the children remain attached to the father only so long as they need him for their preservation. As soon as this need ceases, the natural bond is dissolved....”

Rousseau

- how do you guarantee freedom in a world where people depend on each other more and more?
- **Social Contract**
 - contract between the people and the government
 - government agree to keep order and structure
 - people agree to obey laws

Thomas Hobbes



Thomas Hobbes

- “Life is nasty, brutish, and short.”
- Leviathan
 - government’s purpose is to secure collective security
 - war is man’s natural state

John Locke



John Locke

- All men are born free, equal, and independent
- Second Treatise of Civil Government
 - no divine right of kings
 - **inalienable rights**
 - rights that cannot be taken away
 - life, liberty, and property
- “consent of the governed”
 - govt. exists as long as the people agree it does
- if government breaks the social contract then the people have the right to rebel

Charles de Montesquieu



Montesquieu

- The Spirit of the Laws
- greatest danger is a **despot**
 - corrupt ruler with absolute power
 - believed in separating powers in government
 - also believed in checks and balances

Jacques-Benigne Bossuet



Jacques-Benigne Bossuet

- Bossuet was a strong advocate of political absolutism and the divine right of kings
- He argued that government was divine and that kings received their power from God
