

**THE WHO WHAT
WHEN WHERE WHY
OF GOVERNMENT**

What is

“Government”?

Definition of Government:

“The institution through which a society makes and enforces its public policies.”

(Textbook)

My Definition:

A group of people who make, enforce, and interpret the rules for everybody in a society.

Is Government Necessary?

Where did Governments
come from?

Force Theory

One person or group of people took control over an area.

Evolutionary Theory

Government “evolved” out of the family unit.

Divine Right Theory

God gave the right to rule to Kings

Biblical Basis

Romans 13 (NIV)

1 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

4 For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. 5 Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

Social Contract

People decide to give up some of their rights in order to have the benefits of government.

Thomas Hobbes:

English Philosopher (1600s)

Government prevents “the war of every man against every man”

Without government there would be “continual fear and danger of violent death and life [would be] solitary, poor, **nasty, brutish, and short.**”

John Locke

English Philosopher (1600s)

1690 Second Treatise of Government

“If man in the state of nature . . .
be absolute lord of his own person and
possessions, equal to the greatest and
subject to nobody, why will he part with
his freedom, this empire, and subject
himself to the dominion [authority] and
control of any other power? ...

“It is obvious to answer that though in the state of nature he hath such a right, yet the enjoyment of it is very uncertain and **constantly exposed to the invasion of others**; for all being kings as much as he, every man his equal, . . . the enjoyment of the property he has in this state is very unsafe, very insecure.”

This makes him willing to quit this condition which, however free, is full of fears and continual dangers; and it is not without reason that he seeks out and is willing to join in society with others . . . for the mutual preservation of **their lives, liberties, and estates, which I call by the general name—property.**

For Locke, the main purpose of
Government is:

Protection of Property