

## Political Philosophers Who Influenced The Founding Fathers

	<b>Book</b>	<b>Preferred Form of Government</b>	<b>Life in the “State of Nature”</b>	<b>Natural Rights</b>	<b>Theory of Government</b>
<b>Thomas Hobbes 1588-1679</b>	Leviathan	Absolute Monarchy	Human behavior is built on egoism, or self-interest, which is the root of all social conflict.	Freedom, equality (can be forfeited)	“Implied Contract” People give up freedom & equality to government in exchange for order and security – must obey; no right to revolt.
<b>John Locke 1632-1704</b>	The Second Treatise of Civil Government	Constitutional Monarchy  (property owners have right to vote)	Brutal, because passions overrule man’s natural goodness	Life, Liberty, Equality, & Property (inalienable)	“Social Contract” Government can only govern with the consent of the governed. People must agree on who their rulers will be. Government is limited. People have a right to revolt against a government.
<b>Charles Montesquieu 1689-1775</b>	The Spirit of Laws	Republic	Timid, fearful individuals unite for strength; this strong society then tends to war on the weaker individuals & groups.	Does not deal with this concept	Function of Government is to maintain law & order, protect political liberty and individual’s property. Abuse of power by government is avoided by separation of powers and checks and balances.
<b>David Hume 1711-1776</b>	A Treatise of Human Nature	Republic	Man is not entirely self-serving; seeks balance	Free Speech is essential	A constitution is needed to prevent bad government.
<b>Jean-Jacques Rousseau 1712-1778</b>	The Social Contract	Direct Democracy	Man was born free, equal, and happy. Property ownership leads to inequality & violence.	Liberty, equality – property is a fraud on the poor by the rich.	“Social Contract” Government is the instrument for carrying out the people’s laws – the people are sovereign, the government is not. Laws are arrived at by direct debate and vote, majority rules, and full citizen participation is critical.