

Enlightenment and the 18th Century

10th Humanities



What was the enlightenment?

Using one's guidance without influence of another

Connected with the Scientific Revolution

Focus on Reason and Rational

Helping to Understand Life

Less focus on Religion

Focus on law, hope, progress

Enlightenment continued...

Emphasis on philosophy

Importance of the role of women in intellectual circles

Spread ideas of into society of Europe

Rejection of Christianity ideas

Science Influence - Kepler, Galileo, Newton and others

Skepticism

Scientists helping to downplay religious influence

Thought - religion was an “enemy” of scientific progress

Spread of Scientific Knowledge

Certain beliefs create hypocrisy

Focus on individual conscience, reason, thoughts to make decisions

Exploration and travel - new cultures, people, way of life

Cultural Relativism

Travel and exploration connected

Humans beliefs and choices are connected/understood by your own culture

Connected with skepticism

View of Gods - many different ones “new religion, customs, and rites”

Natural Law, Laissez-faire

Newton's Laws led to natural laws of human life (Science of Man or Social Science)

“Systematic common sense”

Human Life - Knowledge of Human Nature - Make Science Possible

3rd Natural Law = economics and mercantilism, controlled economy by and to benefit the state, Idea of Supply and Demand - pursue your own economics in self-interest, so all could benefit. (Laissez-Faire) = French for let People do as they Choose

Economic Liberalism

Adam Smith (1723-1790), Scottish Philosopher

Attacked Mercantilism (profitable trading/commercialism) due to use of tariffs, making a product cheaper

Free Trade was fundamental belief

Labor of a nation, rather than gold/silver = wealth of a nation

Government's Role - military, defend of injustice, and public works

Natural Rights

Rights of privileges to all people

Political implications

Equality, freedom of religious worship, free speech/press, right to assemble, hold property, and seek happiness - WHAT DOES THAT SOUND LIKE?

Primogeniture and Infanticide

Traditional attitudes were changing in Europe (thanks Enlightenment!)

Better attitude on children, focus on human development

Treatment of the eldest son as best and favorite - view came under attack

Women to breastfeed, toys for children, change of clothes, books, teaching children - mostly upper class and not to peasants

Still a burden to some families - kill or abandon them = infanticide

Agricultural Revolution

1700's improvements in agricultural methods and practices

Increased food production - more farmland, increased crops, healthier livestock, better climate

Abandoned old farming methods, more meat in diet, Columbian Exchange of crops (potato/corn)

Did it lead to the Agricultural Revolution?

Tithes

Still rural society, Peasants large social group = 85%

Free peasants and the serf - legal differences

Poverty for some, owned no land

Paid a tithe - one third of crops to priests/landowners

1. Intellectual developments of the Enlightenment? Ch. 17

1. What is meant by Enlightened Absolutism? Ch. 18

2. Causes of Seven Years War? Ch. 18

2. Popular religion differ from institutional religion? Ch. 17

3. Relationship between Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment? Ch. 17