

PHILOSOPHERS

Philosopher	Origin of Gov't	State of Human Nature	Purpose of Government	Recourse of the People
Aristotle (384-322 B.C.)	Families unite to form a society	People mostly good, but government creates good citizens	To allow people to achieve their full potential; promotes law, justice, and civilized behavior.	People can revolt, perhaps class struggle.
Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679)	Social Contract Theory: Groups of people joined together to form a power by mutual government	People are inherently selfish; "war of all against all."	Government provides security for the people; prevents war and chaos.	Rebellion only if the Sovereign does not protect the people.
John Locke (1632-1704)	Social Contract Theory: Government contract between monarch and people.	People are inherently good; free and equal, with unalienable rights.	Government protects unalienable rights (life, liberty, property). Laws present for the "good of the people."	People can overthrow government when it attempts to take away freedoms/cannot protect unalienable rights.