

# 30-2: The Viability of Liberalism (Political Liberalism in Action) Booklet

## Chapter 13 Questions

1. Read the case study at the beginning of the chapter – whose rights is the principal protecting in this example?
  - b. How does this example help to illustrate the difficulty for governments to practice liberal ideals?
  
2. Read the section on the position of the Governor General. Considering the opinions shared in this section, would you want to keep or abolish this position – provide evidence to support your answer.
  
3. After reading pages 342-345, fill in the following chart:

Arguments for keeping the Senate	Arguments to abolish the Senate	My position
1.	1.	
2.	2.	
3.	3.	

4. Political Parties - explain how the three examples illustrate a way in which Canada’s party system violates the principles of liberalism (you should include an explanation of what aspect of liberal values it goes against)
  - a. Party solidarity
  
  - b. Majority governments
  
  - c. Minority governments

Section Two: Enhancing Individual and Collective Rights

- 5. Why is the creation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms considered a liberal act? (hint: you are going to have to think about this as it is not explicit in your text)
  
- 6. Some legislation (like the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms) includes economic rights. Do you think access to an adequate standard of living is a right that should be in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms?
  - b. How does your answer reflect the values of liberalism? (think: classical vs modern)

7. Read the case studies on Aboriginal collective rights and fill in the following chart

Case Study	Aboriginal Perspective	Non-Aboriginal Perspective	My Perspective
Sparrow Case			
Métis Harvesting Agreement			
Inuit Rights			

- 8. Read the section on collective language rights. How can Francophones defend their need for this collective right?
  - b. Consider the provincial government choices regarding the Anglophone minority in Quebec, and the Francophone minority in Alberta – how does the treatment of each group reflect illiberalism?

## Chapter 10 Questions

1. There are conflicting views on how we can create the perfect (utopian) society? What are some of the values of liberalism and are they the best way to organize a society?
  
2. What is your opinion of Aboriginal collective thought?
  
3. The Manitoba Federation of Métis were denied their land claims – why?
  - b. How does this demonstrate the difficulties liberal governments face in regards to promoting individual or collective rights?
  
4. Why is self-government important to many Aboriginal groups?
  
5. What is the Doukhobors perspective on the values of liberalism?
  
6. Should religious groups be allowed to practice law based on their religious beliefs (like Sharia law, or Catholic and Jewish family courts)?
  - b. How does the acceptance or rejection of faith-based laws demonstrate a challenge to

liberal societies?

7. How does the environmental movement challenge liberal thought?
  
8. Read the section on the Iraq War (pg 265-267), then explain the cartoon on page 266.
  
9. Is the Iraqi resistance to Western liberal ideas justified? Why or why not?
  
10. Is civil disobedience justified in a liberal society?
  
11. Can groups, like the Red Army Faction (Baader-Meinhof Gang) or FLQ (Front de liberation du Quebec, be justified in their use of violence to gain attention to their cause?
  
12. BIG QUESTION: When are challenges to liberalism justified?

## **Chapter 9 Questions**

### PART ONE – Canadian Aboriginal Experience

***Key question: How has the imposition of liberalism affected Aboriginal groups in Canada?***

1. According to the textbook, how do Aboriginal and European worldviews differ?

2. Fill in the following chart

Event	Importance/impact on Aboriginal peoples	Relation to liberalism (support/reject liberal ideas)
Royal Proclamation of 1763		
Creation of Treaties		
Indian Act of 1876		
Banning the Potlatch		
Bill C-31 reinstating the rights of Aboriginal women		
Métis Scrip		
Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples		

### PART TWO – Promoting liberalism in the world

3. Read the section on pages 231 – top of page 232. Do you agree with Prekh? Why or why not? Are there examples you can use to support your answer?

4. What are the **two** main reasons Canada may try to impose liberalism – are these reasons justified?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How is Germany in 1919 an example of imposing liberalism? Was this justified?
  - b. How can the rejection of liberalism in Germany prior to World War Two demonstrate the fragility of democracy (hint: this is at the end of the chapter)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. How did the world justify the invasion of Afghanistan in 2001?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. If a nation is violating human rights, should the UN be allowed to go in and impose (force) that nation to accept liberal values like rule of law and freedom of speech?
  - b. What would be the consequences of your answer for the people living in that country and the world?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Answer the key questions from this chapter:
  - a. How has the imposition of liberalism influenced Aboriginal societies in Canada?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. To what extent does the imposition of liberalism affect various people?

## **Chapter 14 Questions**

1. Read the “Prime Directive” in the introduction to the chapter – does this ideal promote liberal values – provide evidence to support your answer.
  
2. After reading the section on the War Measures Act, explain which of the actions of the government during either World War One or World War Two bother you the most (which do you find the worst)
  - b. How could the Canadian government justify that action?
  
3. Read the section on the Canadian Anti-terrorism Act, and the USA PATRIOT Act.
  - a. How can the government justify taking away rights they should be protecting?
  
  - b. Looking at figure 14-10, how do these changes threaten democracy?
  
4. What is your opinion of racial profiling? Provide evidence to support your answer
  - b. Does your opinion reflect liberal, or illiberal attitudes?

## PART TWO: Challenges to Liberalism

5. Look at the images on page 375; how do these images help to illustrate the idea of relative poverty?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. After reading the section on “Housing and Debt”, explain the economic crisis of 2008.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Look at the cartoon on page 381 – how does this cartoon illustrate the difficulty of balancing classical liberal attitudes of economic freedom with the modern liberal attitude of greater collective responsibility?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Read the section on “The Internet and Censorship”; which quote best summarizes your opinion of Internet censorship? Explain why.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. If there was another SARS epidemic, should the government be allowed to limit people’s freedoms? What could be the consequences of those limits?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Can you now answer the three key questions for this unit?
  - a. To what extent are the values of liberalism viable?
  - b. In what situations should liberal values be limited?
  - c. What challenges can force societies to reconsider the value of liberalism?