

Economic Equality

Collective Responsibility

Public Property

Understandings of Collectivism

Collective Interest

Co-operation

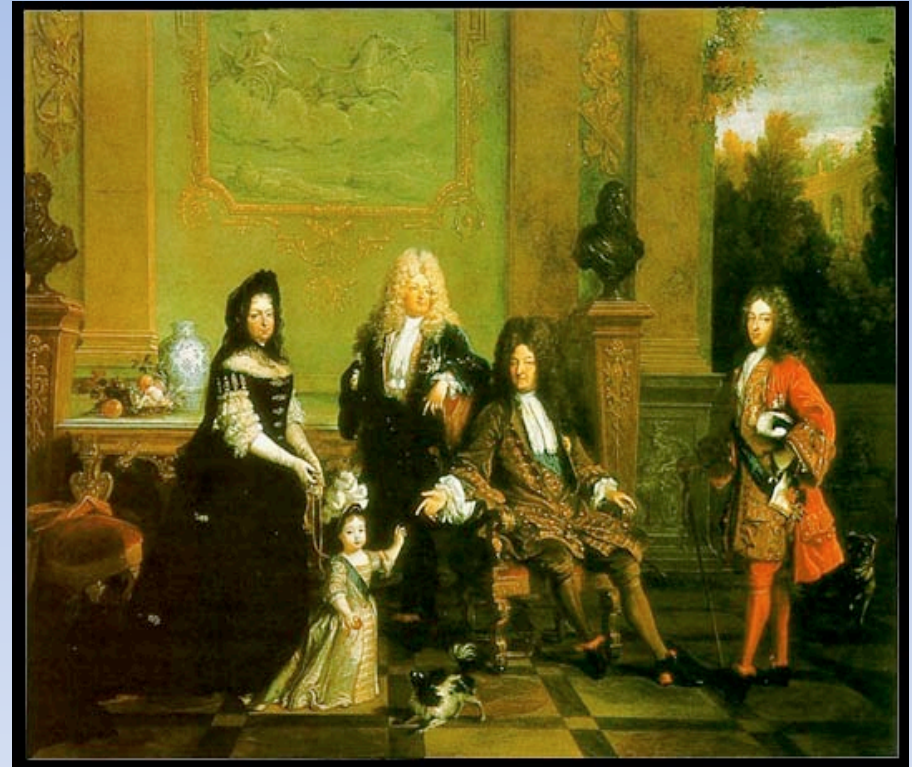
Adherence to collective norms

What is collectivism?
Outcome 1.5

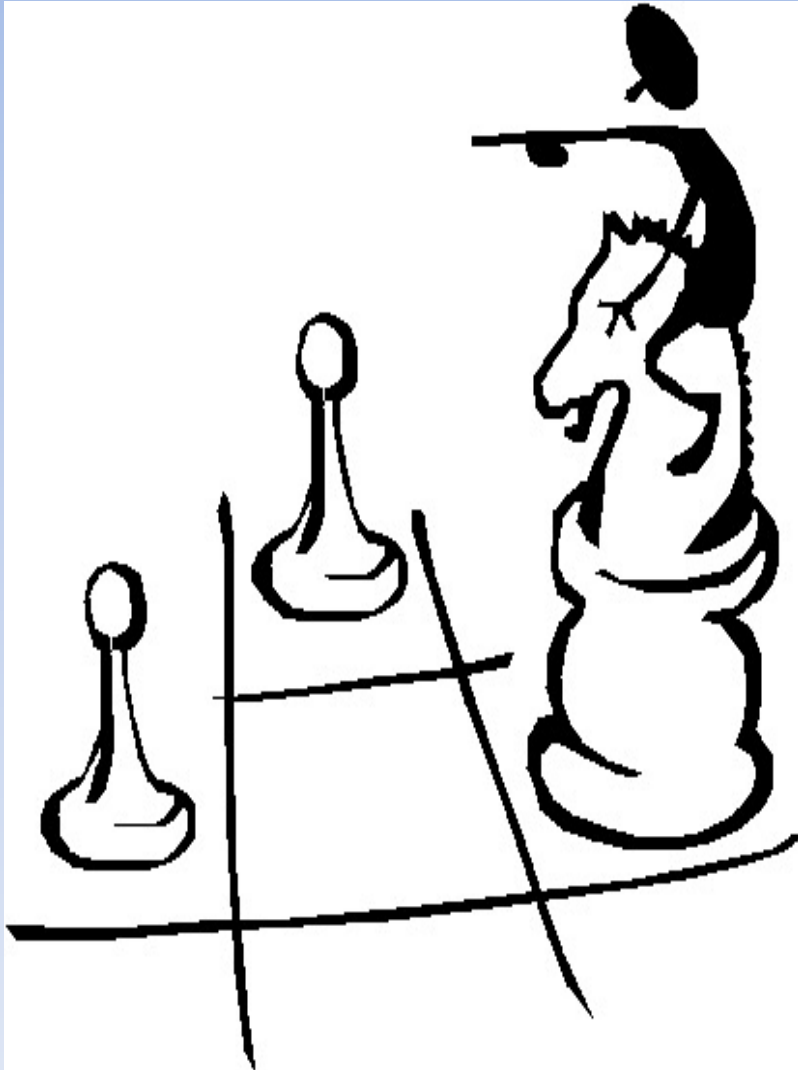
**How is collectivism a
foundation of ideology?**
Outcome 1.8

Early Development of Collectivism

- During the Medieval (circa 476 to the Renaissance) period, society was ordered in a rigidly hierarchical structure under which individual worth was greatly lost.
- Man was part of a collective under God, and was ruled by God and members of His hierarchy.
- The focus of society was largely on the afterlife, instead of beauty and creativity in the current world



Basic Understandings of Collectivism



- Basically, collectivism stresses human interdependence and the importance of a collective, regardless of size, rather than the importance of the individual
- It considers the well-being of the community at the expense of the individual (ex. Smoking)
- Indigenous peoples such as the Aboriginal peoples of Canada describe their traditional cultures as having a strong sense of the collective

PRINCIPLES OF



COLLECTIVISM

Economic Equality

Understandings of Economic Equality can be based on any of the follow principles:

- People with larger incomes should pay more taxes (progressive taxation)
- All people should earn equal wages for work of similar value
- There should be a guaranteed annual income (GAI)
- All people should share in the wealth of a country or the world
- People should own the means of production collectively
- There should be no private property; thus all things should be free

Different countries adopt different amounts of economic equality. To some, it means that all people have exactly the same of everything, to others it means that all people have access to their basic necessities, to others, it means that all people have reasonable standard of living. Still others reject the principle entirely.

Co-operation

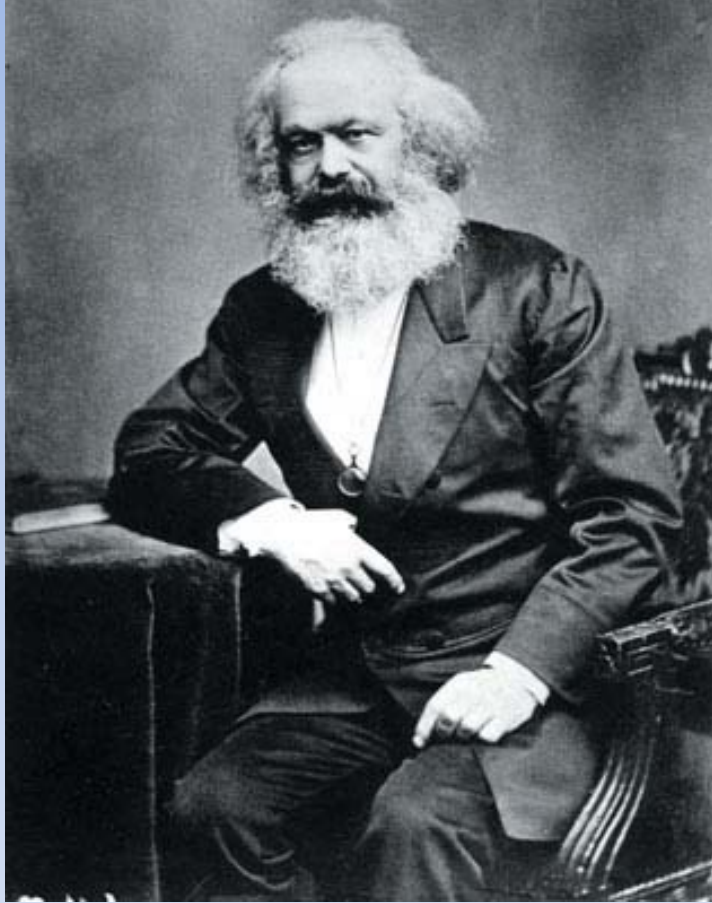


- In early society, necessary for mere survival.
- Co-operation is meant to ensure that members achieve better results more effectively. It is the means through which members achieve their goals...i.e. roles, quotas, protocols, decision-making, etc.
- Cooperation is not always consensual; in certain settings, such as the military, prison, schools and at times, through controls set by government, cooperation may be enforced through threat of punishment or sanctions

Public Property

- **Usually land, capital, industries, etc... that is state-owned... and managed according to the best interest of the collective**
- **The concept of public property is also present to a lesser extent in liberal democracies like Canada. Parks, schools, roads, libraries, Crown land and Crown Corporations (via rail, CBC, the Post Office)...are all examples of property which the government manages the interest of the collectives. These properties are maintained with public money raised through taxation.**

Karl Marx: Private Property



*Father of Communism and author
of "Das Kapital" and "The
Communist Manifesto"
(written with Friedrich Engels)*

- Moved by the problems of the industrial revolution.
- Did not believe in gradual change rather **REVOLUTION.**
- Believed workers (proletariat) must replace the ruling class (bourgeoisie) through revolution.
- The bourgeoisie exploited the workers by forcing them to create goods and services with a greater value than the wages received.
- Therefore, it was necessary to abolish private property and profit motive
- Individual differences would still exist but no one could amass enormous wealth while others lived in poverty.
- Equal opportunity (classless society)
- With the existence of surplus goods crime and greed would not exist

MOTTO: "from each according to his abilities, to each according to his needs."

Collective Interest

- A set of interests that a group has in common ...labor unions, human rights groups, social programs, lobby groups, etc ... The aboriginal groups of Canada have a collective interest for their nations.
- Some of these are not found in a communist system, rather, they can be found in democratic societies, where exploitation has occurred and society is trying to right the wrongs of democracy



In theory, why is there no need for labour unions or human rights groups in communist systems?

Collective Responsibility

- Holding the whole group responsible for the actions of the individuals within the group (makes for group accountability)
- Often made in response to deep-rooted social programs that cannot be addressed by targeting the individual.
- Collective responsibility can also be used as a punitive measure (particularly in authoritarian governments) to insure that citizens obey the government. For example, if one member of the family speaks out about the government, the entire family or neighbourhood may be punished.



Adherence to Collective Norms

- Standards or norms are imposed in collective societies as a condition of membership in society. These norms relate to values, conditions, conduct or appearance
- They are usually binding...trade unions, faith groups, professional groups are all examples
- Censorship can be used to impose or protect these norms

