

INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT

Socials 10

Anarchy – A society with no GOVERNMENT, and no way to enforce PUBLIC ORDER.

According to the political philosopher Thomas Hobbes, life in a society ruled by anarchy would be NASTY, BRUTISH, and SHORT.

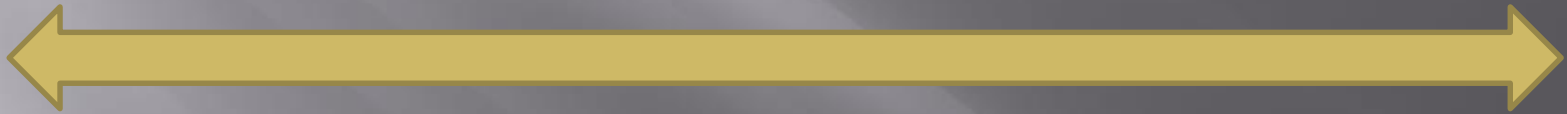
The solution to anarchy is a SOCIAL CONTRACT.

A **SOCIAL CONTRACT** requires citizens to surrender some personal **FREEDOM**, in order to gain **SECURITY** and **SERVICES**.

Citizens give **POWER** to **GOVERNMENT**.

Power – The ability to **CONTROL** others through **INFLUENCE** or **FORCE**.

Power



INFLUENCE

FORCE

Politics – Making **DECISIONS** for a group.

Some members of the group exercise **POWER** over other members in order to make decisions about who gets **WHAT, WHERE,** and **HOW.**

Politics is used to avoid **ANARCHY!**

GOVERNMENT – The organization of people for the resolution of disputes and conflicts.

Government is used to avoid **ANARCHY!**

The ultimate question is not about whether government is necessary, it is about where we should draw the line on government **RESPONSIBILITY** and **POWER!**