

# FRENCH REVOLUTION

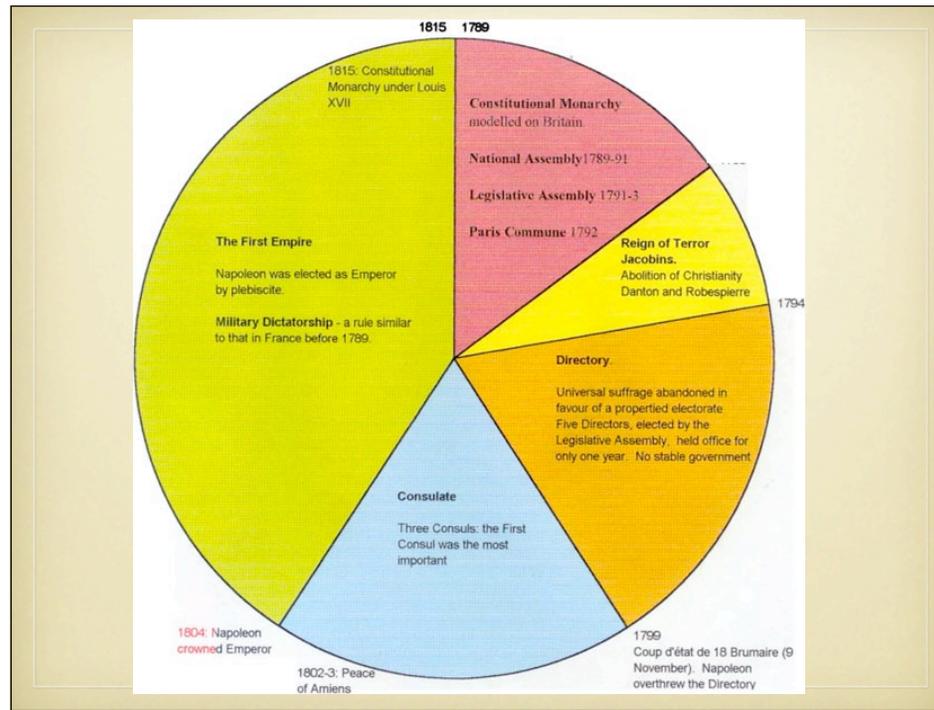
1789-1815

## DIFFERING POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES

1. **Conservative** (royal family, members of upper clergy and nobility)
  - Monarchical absolutism
  - no separation of church and state
  - maintain mercantilism
  - maintain feudalism
2. **Moderate** (members who dominated gov't during moderate and convalescent phases, bourgeoisie-liberal members of aristocracy, lower clergy, middle class)
  - Constitutional monarchy
  - Separation of church and state
  - Laissez-faire capitalism
  - political power=limited to educated,property-owning classes, but basic civil liberties guaranteed to all citizens, regardless of economic status (no voting)
3. **Radical** (urban artisan classes i.e. sans-culottes, peasantry but leadership comes from educated middle class)
  - Democracy (anti-aristocratic and anti-monarchial)
  - antagonistic to organized church (anti-christian)
  - split between socialism and controlled capitalism
  - universal male suffrage

## 5 PHASES OF REVOLUTION

1. **The Old Regime:** problems over a long period of time  
(Absolute Monarchy of Louis XIV and Marie Antoinette)
2. **Moderates** attempt to correct problems  
(Constitutional Monarchy-moderates and the National Assembly/Legislative Assembly))
3. **Radicals** wanting further and faster changes take control and use violence  
(Republic- radical and the National Convention)
4. **Conservatives** take over reacting against the violence  
(Oligarchy- The Directory/Consulate))
5. **All powerful leader** emerges and takes control and provided law and order  
(Absolute Ruler/Emperor-rule of Napoleon)



### The French Revolution

Date	Ruling Government	Changes
1789–1791	National Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Constitutional monarchy established</li><li>• Feudalism abolished</li><li>• <i>Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen</i> adopted</li></ul>
1791–1792	Legislative Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Constitutional monarchy undermined</li><li>• Mob forced king to flee to the safety of the Legislative Assembly</li><li>• War declared against Austria and Prussia</li></ul>
1792–1795	The First Republic and The Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• France declared a Republic (Sept. 1792)</li><li>• France ruled by Committee of Public Safety</li><li>• Radicals (Jacobins) overcame moderates (Girondins)</li><li>• Terror used to execute “enemies of the regime”</li><li>• Robespierre executed</li></ul>
1795–1799	The Directory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Five directors ruled as executive</li><li>• Coups d’état attempted by radical and conservative forces</li><li>• Napoleon overthrew the government in a coup d’état (Nov. 1799)</li></ul>

## BACKGROUND TO THE F.R.

### • *Social Structure of Old Regime*

1. **First Estate=Clergy**

\*100,000 of 25 million, 1 percent of population, owned 10 percent of land, tax exempt, division between upper and lower members of church, ran schools, in Estates-General=300 reps.

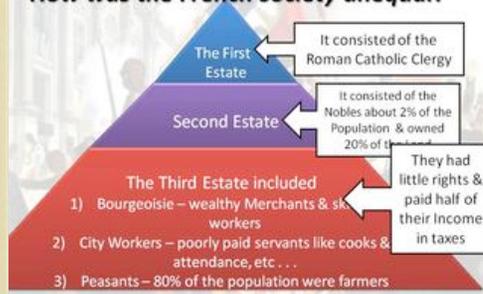
2. **Second Estate=Secular Nobility**

\* 400,000 of 25 million, 2 percent of population, owned 20 percent of land, largely tax exempt, key positions in king's court, military, and high church offices, block legislative attempts at tax reform, controlled local courts, feudal privileges, hunting rights, in Estates-General=300 reps

3. **Third Estate= Everyone Else ( 97 percent)**

\* Bourgeoise    \*Urban Artisans (Sans-culottes)    \* Peasantry

### How was the French society unequal?

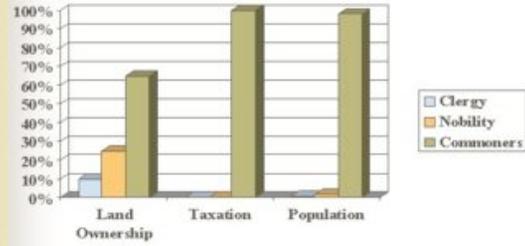


## WHAT WERE THE BASIC CAUSES AND IMMEDIATE CAUSES FOR THE F.R.? (PHASE I)

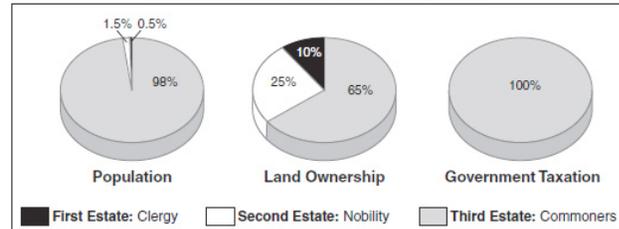
### A. Basic Causes

1. Injustices of the Old Regime- political, social , and economic system of 18th century Europe
  - a. estate system too rigid and unequal
2. Absolute rule by divine right
  - a. no voice in gov't
  - b. rights violated-no protection of individual rights
  - c. lettres de cachet (grievances)
3. Inequality among the classes
  - a. special privileges among the king and the first two estates
    - \*exempt from laws, hold special gov't positions, hunting
  - b. 3rd estate had no social rights
4. Unfair tax system
  - a. 1st and 2nd estate exempt from paying taxes but are allowed to collect taxes from 3rd estate
  - b. 60 percent of 3rd estate income goes to taxes

## Three Estates



The Three Estates in Pre-Revolutionary France



Source: Jackson J. Spielvogel, *World History*, Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2003 (adapted)

### **MORE BASIC CAUSES**

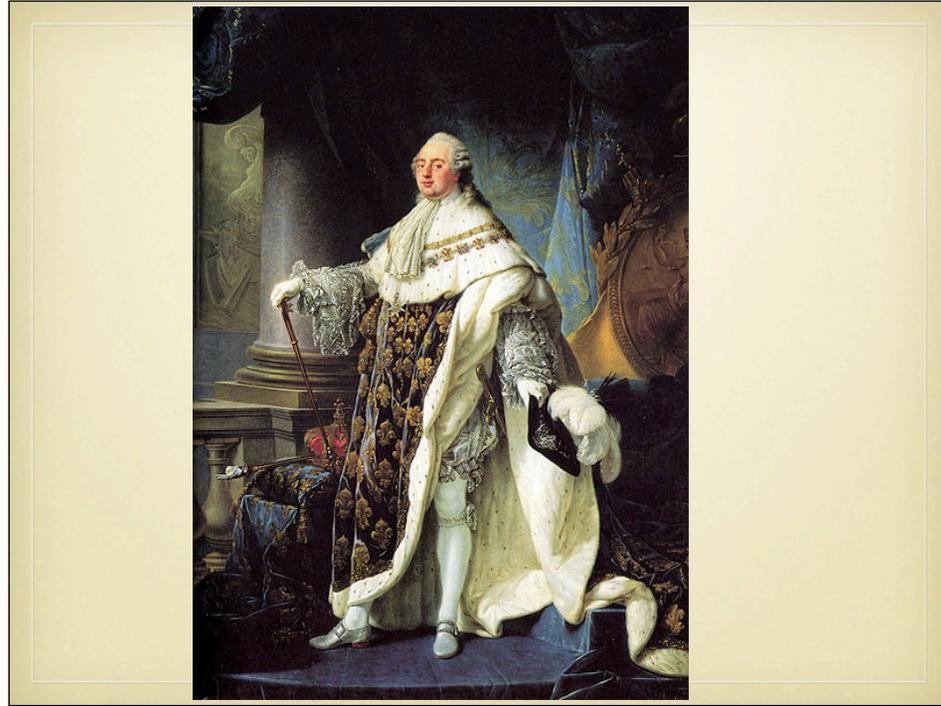
5. Poor economic conditions

- a. food shortages
- b. high bread prices/inflation riots
- c. unemployment
- d. bankruptcy: Louis XIV, Seven Years War (Fr. and Indian), American Revolution

6. Enlightenment philosophers bring to light the injustices of the old regime

7. Unpopular and ineffective leadership of Louis XIV and Marie Antoinette

8. Glorious and American Revolutions were models of inspiration to France







### IMMEDIATE CAUSES

1. King Louis XVI brings France to bankruptcy when he attempts to tax the nobles--> forced to call Estates-General=opened door to revolution

#### **Privileged 2:1**

1st estate	300 reps.	1% pop	1 vote
2nd estate	300 reps.	2% pop	1 vote
3rd estate	600 reps.	97% pop	1 vote

2. 3rd estate wanted to change voting procedure from voting as group have each 1 vote to each individual has own vote (“What is the third estate?”)

3. Voting procedure not changed the 3rd estate walked out and formed the Tennis Court Oath declaring a new law making body called the National Assembly (bourgeoise)

# TENNIS COURT OATH



# PHASE II

MODERATE: CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY  
1789-1792

**HOW DID THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ABOLISH THE OLD REGIME? (PHASE II-MODERATES)**

**Phase II led by the bourgeoisie (the urban middle class)**

1. 3rd estate walked out of Estates-General and formed the National Assembly
2. Intervention of the common people:
  - a. **Storming of the Bastille** on July 14, 1789 (French Independence Day)
    - \*prison/armory stormed by peasants and taken over by Paris mob
    - \* symbolically represented the monarchy and the ideals of the old regime
  - b. **Great Fear:** wave of violence spreads to the countryside
    - \*rumors spread that nobles hired robbers to kill peasants in countryside=peasants arm themselves and swore never to pay feudal dues
3. National Assembly moves quickly and **abolishes old regime**
  - a. ended all privileges of 1st and 2nd estates: ended feudalism
  - b. weakened power of the Catholic church
    1. took away lands and sold them
    2. 1790- **Civil Constitution of the Clergy**- took away power of Pope to appoint priests=Pope condemns rev.
    3. Priests must take loyalty oath= half refuses, half agreed=split Cath. church



# STORMING OF THE BASTILLE



## PHASE II CONTINUED..

4. **Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen**-National Assembly outlines principles of the new gov't
  - a. philosophical blueprint=Declaration of Indep. and Bill of Rights
  - b. equality before the law, not equal rights, representation in gov't="Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity
  - c. protection of basic freedoms (speech, press, etc.)
  - d. DID NOT include women= wrote own Declaration and revolutionary leaders rejected it
  - e. King refuses to accept new reforms--> people want king to move to Paris--> Women march of Versailles- bread, move to paris
5. **Constitution of 1791**=formation of the a constitutional monarchy
  - a. written constitution
  - b. limited monarchy
  - c. *Legislative Assembly*:
    1. The Legislative Assembly consists of elected members. Most members came from the wealthy business class or wealthy landowners. Few were nobles or clergymen.
    2. The Constitution stated that members would be elected according to the principle of limited male suffrage. This means that only men with property could vote.
    3. Louis XVI had *suspension veto* power which meant that he could insist that legislation (laws) continue to be a topic of discussion but he had no power to cancel them or veto them himself.
6. Constitutional monarchy faced many problems and eventually failed
  - a. economic problems- inflation, high bread prices, shortages
  - b. King attempts to flee- arrested (treason)
  - c. state of war with Austria and Prussia- *Declaration of Pillnitz*--> France declares war on Austria and eventually every nation in Europe=mobilizes for war

## WOMEN MARCH ON VERSAILLES



### WHAT WERE THE ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY?

1. Bread Prices remained high.
2. The Legislative Assembly implemented **laissez-faire** economic principles. Laissez-faire means free market or capitalist economics. In laissez-faire systems the government does not control the economy or help poor people. It allows people to work hard and earn their own money and employ other people to help them.
3. Church lands were seized and sold off to whoever could afford them. To help people pay for them, the government printed paper money called *assignats*. Many peasants bought the land but eventually the *assignats* became worthless because the govt. printed too many of them.

**WHAT WERE THE RELIGIOUS POLICES OF THE  
CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY?**

1. Church lands were confiscated.
2. Church tithes (10% of a family's income) were abolished.
3. Granted religious toleration to Jews and Protestants.
4. Required the clergy to follow the state instead of the Catholic Church hierarchy by requiring them to take an oath to support the  
CIVIL CONSTITUTION OF THE CLERGY. 1790

This turned the church of France into a national church controlled by the state instead of by the pope in Rome.

Clergymen were paid by the government.

50% signed it

50% refused to sign it

**WHO IS HAPPY AND WHO IS SAD AT THE END OF THE  
CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY?**

- Place the following groups into a happy and sad chart. Which people were feeling pleased with the changes brought about by the National Assembly and the Constitution of 1791 and who was now angry?

Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette

nobles

clergy

Peasants

Bourgeoisie (wealthy business class)

sans culottes (poor urban workers)

Jews

Protestants

Catholic people

women

Austria and Prussia (other monarchies in Europe)

## ***Happy and Sad: 1789-1791***

### **Happy :)**

- \*bourgeoisie
- \*peasants
- \*half the clergy
- \*half the Catholics
- \*Jews
- \*Protestants

### **Sad :(**

- \*nobles
- \*Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette
- \*sans culottes (no vote, no money)
- \*half the Catholics
- \*Austrians and Prussians
- women

# PHASE III

RADICAL PHASE- THE REPUBLIC  
1792-1794

## HOW DID THE RADICALS GAIN CONTROL OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION? (PHASE III)

1. Failure of the constitutional monarchy opened door for radicals to gain control
2. New meeting called National Convention was called to draw up a new constitutional gov't

Left	Middle	Right
Radical 1. peasants, poor 2. wanted republic controlled by poor 3. <u>Jacobins</u> -Danton and Robespierre, violence, fast change 4. <u>Girondists</u> - moderate radicals, protect wealthy class and rev.	Moderates 1. middle class 2. wanted a republic controlled by middle class	Conservatives 1. clergy and nobles 2. wanted to return back to old regime

3. Radicals gain control of National Convention and declare France a republic--> Louis XVI beheaded for treason, Marie will follow later in the year

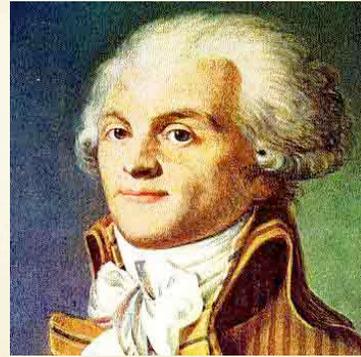
4. National Convention, due to crisis in France, form the **Committee for Public Safety** under leadership of Robespierre- "Reign of Terror"

Purpose- 1. stop counter-revolution by clergy and nobles  
 2. win war against Prussia and Austria

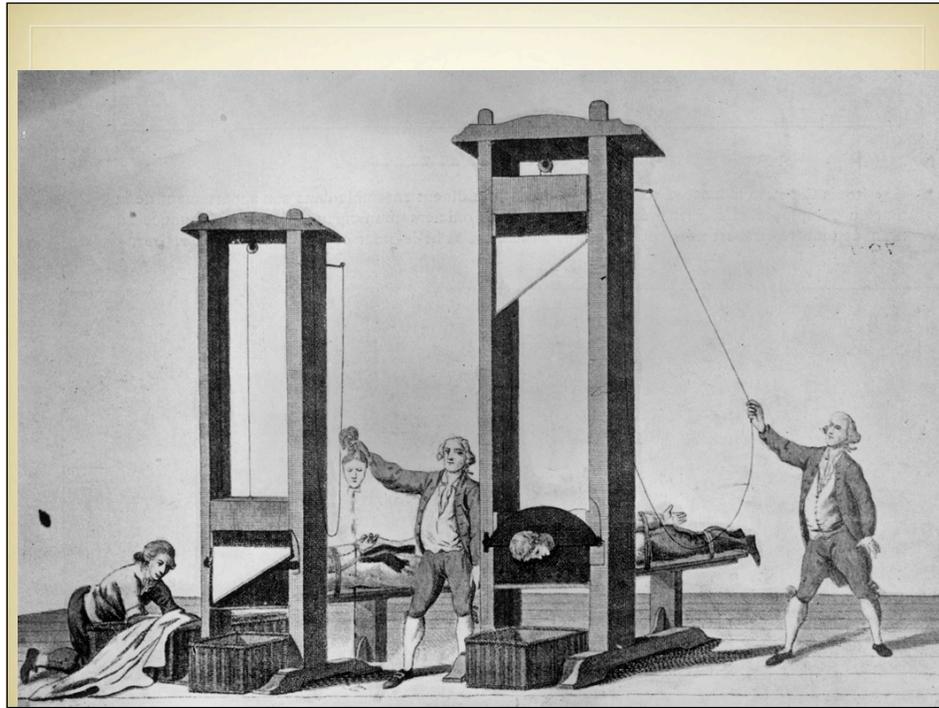
Result- 1. send 400,000 people to guillotine=Reign of Terror  
 2. Robespierre is sent to guillotine=end of Reign of Terror  
 3. opportunity to moderates when National Convention resumed



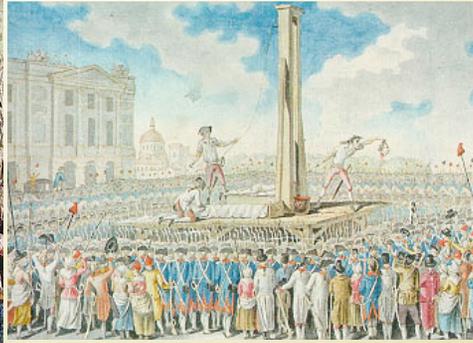
Georges Danton  
"Liberty, Equality, and  
Fraternity" , expand  
territory



Maximillian Robespierre  
will rise to power to crush all  
rebellion, traitors



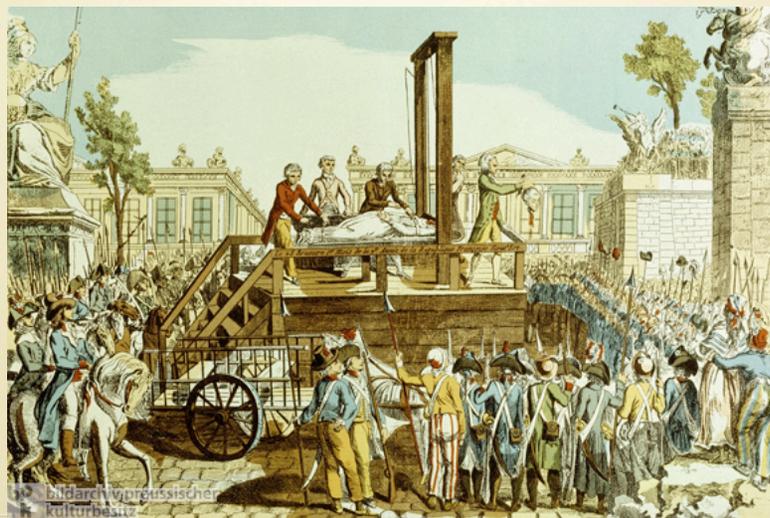
## EXECUTION OF LOUIS XVI



BEFORE THE EXECUTION



## EXECUTION OF MARIE ANTOINETTE



**WHAT WERE THE POLITICAL POLICIES OF THE  
REPUBLIC?**

1. Government is a republic.
2. Representatives elected to the **National Convention**.
3. Members of the Convention are also members of *Jacobin* clubs which were revolutionary organizations that were fairly radical. All the members of the Convention were radical, but some (the Mountain) were more radical than others.
4. Members were elected by *Unlimited Male Suffrage* (all men, no property restrictions)

## WAR INSIDE AND OUT

1. National Convention determined to end tyranny
2. Farmers were supporting the French Armies whether they liked it or not.
  - \*Some peasants joined the fight against invaders.
  - \*Some peasants joined the foreigners against the French because the armies were taking their crops and livestock.
3. Bread prices continued to soar in the cities.
4. Unemployment was high because all the focus was on the war, not on creating jobs.
5. Inflation was making the money people had less valuable

**WHAT WERE THE ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THE  
REPUBLIC?**

1. Controlled Economy (government intervention).

\*\* No more laissez faire

2. Price controls on bread. Price maximums.  
makes san culottes happy but farmers are MAD!

3. Rationing for all food items and some household goods.

4. Bread Prices continued to be high.

**WHAT WERE THE RELIGIOUS POLICIES DURING THE  
REPUBLIC?**

1. Catholicism abolished- worship of the Supreme Being
2. This was a **deist** religious tradition. God started the world as a clockmaker makes a clock but the people are in charge of managing all the details. Nature and God guide people in their choices but  
  
\*\*\***REASON** is the way of knowing.
3. "Republic of Virtue"  
Catholic Churches were changed into **Temples of Reason.**
4. Statues of saints were destroyed, stained glass windows were broken, the clergy escaped to other countries or hid in caves in the south of France.

**Cultural Changes: Make it rational and republican!**

Metric system

10 day week (no Biblical references to seven days)

Names of the months changed.

No Christmas or Easter

New National Holidays to celebrate the Republic.

Change street names: Avenue of the Republic, Place de la Revolution.

*Tu* not *Vous* makes addressing people equal. No hierarchy.

No "madame" and "monsieur." Instead "citizen."

Children's names: no Louis or Marie! How about Liberty?

No chess (King, Queen, Bishops, Knights, pawns?)

No playing cards (King, Queen, Jack?)

## HOW DID THE REPUBLIC IMPACT WOMEN?

- \*Feminists and middle class lose ground
- \*Provided decisive leadership--> propelled revolution to include widened suffrage and a more democratic structure
- \*Armed women--> fought for right to bear arms
- \*National Convention-->Radicalism-->represses militant feminists forces

Played a major role in the Revolution and paved way for women's rights in France

## HOW DID THE REVOLUTION DEVOUR ITSELF?

1. Eventually, members of the Committee for Public Safety began to disagree about all the killing.

**\*\*Georges Danton was executed for challenging the Committee's decisions.**

**\*\*Robespierre steps up executions to about 350 per month!**

Eventually, Robespierre himself was executed as the war continued, the economy continued to be problematic and as the confusion of the cultural policies took a toll on everyone.

## HOW DID THE FR CREATE NATIONALISM?

\*\* Nationalism: feeling of group identity

1. The French were starting to feel more like a nation.

- They had now been through two phases of revolution.
- There had been a serious war that continued.
- There had been lots of discussion about the meaning of liberty, equality, and fraternity.
- There had been a lot of civil conflict that included people from all walks of life.

**WHO IS HAPPY AND WHO IS SAD AT THE END OF THE  
REPUBLIC?**

Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette

Nobles

Clergy

Bourgeoisie

Peasants

Sans-culottes

Women

Jews

Protestants

Austria, Prussia, Spain, England

## HAPPY AND SAD: 1792-1794

Happy :)	Sad :(
Some peasants	Louis XVI and Marie Austria, Prussia, Spain, England Jews, Protestants clergy nobles bourgeoise sans-culottes women

# PHASE IV

THERMIDORIAN REACTION AND THE  
DIRECTORY: 1794-1799

## HOW DID THE MODERATES GAIN CONTROL OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION?

1. Moderates revolt against radical rule and Robespierre is executed ending the "Reign of Terror"
2. National Convention meets, moderates gain control and formed a republic/oligarchy called the Directory (1794-1799)
  - a. 2-house legislature
  - b. governing body of 5 men- the directors
3. Directory will be overthrown by a coup led by Napoleon Bonaparte
  - Why:
    - a. corruption in the gov't
    - b. failed to solve economic problems- bread prices still high
    - c. failed to maintain law and order- rebel against "Republic of Virtue", food shortages-use of force to put down rebellion
    - d. did not have support of peasants-revolution failed them
    - e. losing war to Prussia
  - Reforms:
    - \* 1795 wrote new constitution
    - a. universal male suffrage ended-return to land-owning male suffrage
    - b. under control of wealthy middle class
4. Consulate from 1799-1804, then Napoleon will crown himself emperor of France

# PHASE V

RULE OF NAPOLEON-THE EMPIRE

**HOW DID NAPOLEON RISE TO POWER AND DOMINATE  
FRANCE AND EUROPE? (PHASE V)**

1. Personal qualifications- intellectual, brilliant mind, ambitious, machiavellian, charisma
2. Military ability made him a hero-army admired him and supported his political ambition
3. Failure of Directory to provide law and order, and solve economic problems opened the door for Napoleon-public looks to army to provide for some sort of order
  - \*1799 Napoleon overthrows directory in military coup

## NAPOLEON'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Made peace with France's enemies
2. **Napoleonic Codes of Civil Law:** guaranteed equality, wiped out old regime, based on laissez-faire liberal principles, restricted women's rights
3. Established Bank of France and sound currency hoping to improve the economy and control inflation. It was successful.
4. **Concordat of 1804**-Catholic church recognized as majority religion, clergy paid as gov't officials, but also added provisions for Protestants, and church subject to secular rule
4. Started a public works system to put unemployed to work building bridges and roads
5. Reformed tax codes
6. Reform and centralization of education system-started University of France and improved public education
7. Legion of honor rewarded people for their service to France
8. established a strong central gov't to provide law and order- Napoleon above the law=authoritarian/dictator
  - \*\*censorship of press and speech, creation of police state, network of gov't spies, real power lay with the Emperor not legislative powers

### **THE END OF NAPOLEON..**

1. Defeated in Russia in 1812 (winter)
2. Exiled to Elba- abdicated throne to Napoleon II he refuses so power goes to Louis XVIII
3. Escapes in 1815- Battle of Waterloo s
4. Exiled to St. Helena in the Atlantic- dies in 1821



CORONATION OF NAPOLEON



