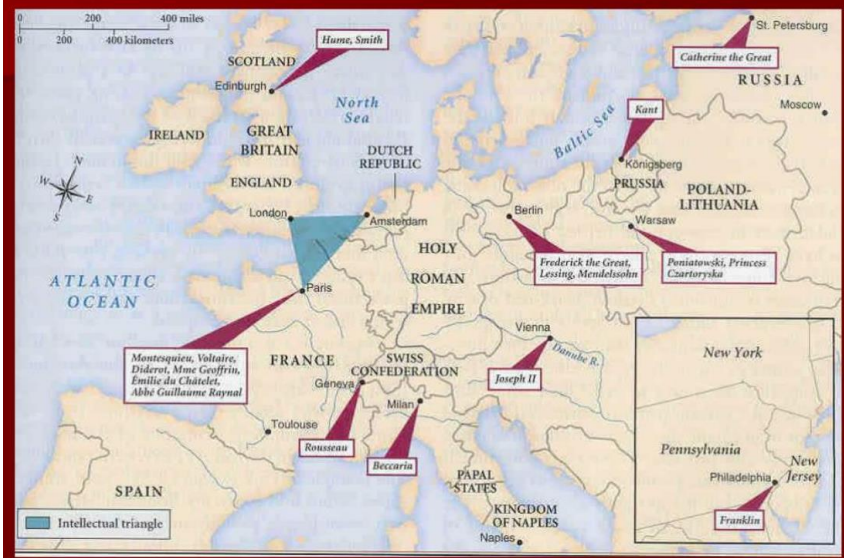


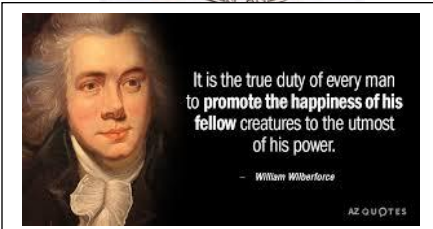
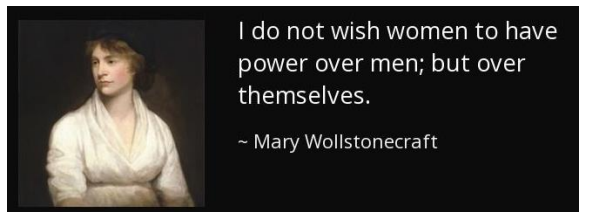
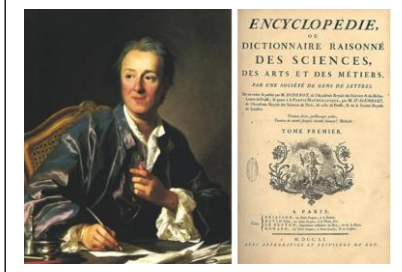
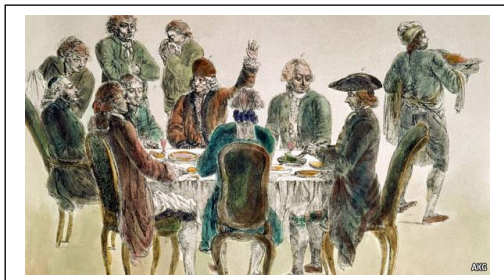
Aim #3: How did the Enlightenment spread & change Europe & the world?

Spread of the Enlightenment



Mini Lecture

- Enlightenment ideas flowed from France, across Europe and beyond.
- Governments & church authorities waged a war of censorship. They banned & burned books and imprisoned writers- but that did not stop the spread of ideas.
- Ideas spread through **Diderot's Encyclopedia**, pamphlets made by the **printing press**, in **Salons**, and coffeehouses.
- Natural laws & natural rights emerged as central themes, but became very controversial. Did they only apply to white European men or did they apply to everyone? Reality was that free white men had many rights that slaves, people of color, & women did not. Reformers fought to secure rights for more people.
- **Mary Wollstonecraft** in *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (one of the first books on feminism) advocated for women's natural rights through equal education. Her writings inspired women later in history to fight for equal rights including **suffrage**.
- One natural right was liberty, it made citizenship, social contracts, & opportunity possible. But enslaved people had no liberty. **William Wilberforce**, a British politician & **abolitionist** fought & successfully ended the British slave trade (1807) & British slavery in 1833.
- The courts of Europe were also affected by the Enlightenment as some absolute monarchs accepted to make reforms, while retaining their absolute control. These **enlightened despots** used their power to bring about political & social changes to make their citizens happy & strengthen their states. **Fredrick the Great** of Prussia allowed a free press & religious tolerance. **Catherine the Great** of Russia prohibited torture & religious persecution.
- Despite the spread of Enlightenment ideas, however, the lives of most Europeans changed slowly.
- The Enlightenment impacted Europeans' perception of government & questioned the power of divine monarchs & the role of citizens in gov't (their consent).
- The Enlightenment had major effects on political revolutions (in U.S., France, Latin America) & the development of the structure of those governments.



Effects on US Government

U.S. Government	Enlightenment origin/Philosophes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The US Constitution ◦ 3 Branches of Government ◦ Checks and balances ◦ Veto □ Bill of Rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Baron de Montesquieu □ Voltaire □ Jean Jaque Rousseau

In the mid-late 1700s, Enlightenment writings circulated around Europe. Some of those reading the ideas of Locke, Rousseau, Montesquieu, and Voltaire were monarchs. Most rulers found Enlightenment ideas dangerous and banned them, but some kings and queens, who historians call **ENLIGHTENED DESPOTS**, incorporated Enlightenment ideas into their rule.

ENLIGHTENED

Influenced by the writings of the Enlightenment philosophers who supported natural rights, the separation of power in a government, the consent of the governed, social contract, and the freedom of expression.

+

DESPOT

A ruler with absolute power.

Review Questions:

1. How did Enlightenment ideas spread?
2. How did the Enlightenment affect European reform movements & rulers?
3. Why would a ruler change his/her gov't to become an Enlighten Despot if it's already beneficial to them?

What effect did the Enlightenment have on social reform movements and monarchs in the 18th century?

The Roots of Feminism and Women's Rights Movements

Throughout most of history, women were treated as inferior to men and those actions were supported by ideas in culture, religion, and law. In 18th century Europe, women were not as educated as men, and they were restricted by laws and customs that made women look to marriage as a means of stability and made them dependent on men. Due to their favored position in society, men were able to excel in public life and in science, philosophy, religion and politics, while women were expected to marry, have children, and take care of the home.

Using Enlightenment ideas, some women, including Mary Wollstonecraft, argued for more equal rights for men and women. Mary Wollstonecraft (April 27, 1759 – September 10, 1797) was a British intellectual, writer, philosopher, and early feminist. She wrote several novels, essays, and children's books, but is best known for her book, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792).

Wollstonecraft argued that all men and women had equal **natural rights**, and that an ideal society could not be realized until everyone was free to exercise those rights. She spoke out against the situation of women in the eighteenth century, declaring that they were educated to be submissive [obedient] to men and to value physical attractiveness over character and intelligence.

What was life like women in 18th century Europe?

Throughout most of history, women were treated as inferior to men and those actions were supported by ideas in culture, religion, and law. In 18th century Europe, women were not as educated as men because of a lack of opportunities to go to school, and they were restricted by laws and customs that made women look to marriage as a means of stability and made them dependent on men. Due to their favored position in society, men were able to excel in public life, that is, science, philosophy, religion and politics, while women were expected to marry, have children, and take care of the home.

1. According to this excerpt, how have women been perceived historically?
2. According to this excerpt, what were European women expected to do in the 18th century?

Who was Mary Wollstonecraft?

Using Enlightenment ideas, some women, including Mary Wollstonecraft, argued for more equal rights for men and women. Mary Wollstonecraft (April 27, 1759 – September 10, 1797) was a British intellectual, writer, philosopher, and early feminist. She wrote several novels, essays, and children's books, but is best known for her book, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792). Wollstonecraft died at the age of 38, eleven days after giving birth to her second daughter, leaving behind several unfinished manuscripts.

What is *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*?

A Vindication of the Rights of Woman is one of the earliest works of feminist philosophy. Wollstonecraft wrote *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* after reading Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord's 1791 report to the French National Assembly, which stated that women should only receive a domestic education such as training in cooking and cleaning. *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* is a treatise, or a long piece of writing that discusses a subject carefully and thoroughly. Wollstonecraft argued that all men and women had equal **natural rights**, and that an ideal society could not be realized until everyone was free to exercise those rights. She spoke out against the situation of women in the eighteenth century, declaring that they were educated to be submissive to men and to value physical attractiveness over character and intelligence.

Directions: Examine and annotate the document below to identify information that will help you describe the point of view, purpose, and audience.

A Vindication of the Rights of Woman: with Strictures on Political and Moral Subjects

TO
M. Talleyrand-Périgord
Late Bishop of Autun

Pardon my frankness, but I must observe, that you treated [the subject of women's rights] in too cursory a manner [...]

Contending for the rights of woman [...] if she be not prepared by education to become the companion of man, she will stop the progress of knowledge and virtue;...If children are to be educated to understand the true principle of patriotism, their mother must be a patriot; and the love of mankind[...]

But if women are to be excluded, without having a voice, from a participation of the natural rights of mankind, prove first, to ward off the charge of injustice and inconsistency, that they want reason, else this flaw in your NEW CONSTITUTION will ever show that man must, in some shape, act like a tyrant, and tyranny [...] will ever undermine morality [...]

I wish, sir, to set some investigations of this kind afloat in France; and should they lead to a confirmation of my principles when your constitution is revised, the Rights of Woman may be respected, if it be fully proved that reason calls for this respect, and loudly demands JUSTICE for one-half of the human race.


Source: Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*, 1792

1. **Point of View:** Identify the author's point of view concerning the rights of women.
2. **Purpose:** Explain the author's purpose for writing about women's rights in the 18th century.
3. **Audience:** Explain how the audience affects the way the author presents their ideas.



The Abolition Movement Starts in England



Directions: As you read through the information about the Abolition Movement below, draw a  wherever you see evidence of an Enlightenment idea then Answer questions that follows.

Soon after the colonization of the Western hemisphere, European countries started importing slaves from Africa to work in mines and on farms in the new world. During the course of the 18th century the British made the Atlantic slave system more efficient. It has been estimated that between 1700 and 1810, British merchants transported almost three million Africans across the Atlantic. British slave traders and those who owned companies that benefited from the slave trade became wealthy because of it, while others in Great Britain led the struggle to bring the system to an end.

Several groups who found the practice of slavery immoral petitioned [asked] the British government to stop trading slaves in the 1700s, but it was the **Society for the Abolition of the Slave Trade**, organized in May 1787, that had the greatest impact. Led by **Thomas Clarkson** and **William Wilberforce**, the Society for the Abolition of the Slave Trade organized abolitionists, made speeches, released newsletters, and lobbied politicians to gain support for the end of slavery in the British Empire.

Eventually, in 1807 they were successful in getting Parliament to pass a law outlawing slavery and the slave trade in England and all of the British colonies. While slavery was officially illegal, people of African descent were not yet treated equally.




The Official Medallion of the British Anti-Slavery Society that reads, "Am I Not a Man and a Brother?"

1. Identify three examples of Enlightenment ideas in the information and sources about the British Abolition Movement in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Enlightened Despots: The Enlightenment's Effects on Monarchs



Directions: As you read through the information about Enlightened Despots and Catherine the Great below, draw a  wherever you see evidence of an Enlightenment idea then complete the task that follows.

Catherine II, also known as **Catherine the Great** (May 2, 1729 – November 5, 1796) reigned as Empress of Russia for more than three decades, from June 28, 1762 until her death in 1796. She is one example of an "enlightened despot" and was one of the most powerful and successful women rulers, who, like Elizabeth I of England and Isabella of Castile left a permanent mark on her nation, extending territory and supporting art and learning.

Catherine read the works of Enlightenment thinkers and considered herself a "philosopher on the throne" though she ruled Russia like an absolute monarch. She declared her love for the Enlightenment ideals of liberty and freedom, but also enacted laws that tied Russian serfs (slaves) to their land and their lord, treating them like property and preventing them from having what John Locke referred to as "natural rights."

Catherine supported the arts, literature, and education. She wrote comedies, fiction, and memoirs. She corresponded with **Voltaire** for fifteen years until his death, though she never met him face-to-face. Demonstrating her fondness for Voltaire and the ideas of this contemporaries, she acquired his collection of books from his heirs and placed it in the Imperial Public Library.

Within a few months of becoming queen, upon hearing that the publication of the famous French Encyclopedie was in danger of being stopped by the French government because it did not include religious ideas supported by the Catholic Church, she proposed to **Diderot** that he complete his great work in Russia under her protection.

Catherine also wrote a manual for the education of young children, drawing from the ideas of **John Locke**. She also founded the famous Smolny Institute for noble young ladies. This school was to become one of the best of its kind in Europe, and broke ground by admitting young girls born to wealthy merchants alongside the daughters of the nobility.

In addition, she attempted to embody the principles of the Enlightenment in laws. A Grand Commission, acting as a parliament, composed of 652 members of all classes—officials, nobles, burghers [wealthy members of town or city] and peasants and of various nationalities—was convened in Moscow to consider the needs of the empire and ways to address them. The laws proposed by the commission were influenced by **Montesquieu**, but were never enacted.

Proposals for a New Law Code from Catherine's Grand Commission in 1767

33. The Laws ought to be so framed, as to secure the Safety of every Citizen as much as possible.

123. The Usage of Torture is contrary to all the Dictates of Nature and Reason; even Mankind itself cries out against it, and demands loudly the total Abolition of it.

34. The Equality of the Citizens consists in this; that they should all be subject to the same Laws.

194. No Man ought to be looked upon as *guilty*, before he has received his judicial Sentence...

1. Identify three examples of actions taken by Catherine the Great that were influenced by Enlightenment ideas.

