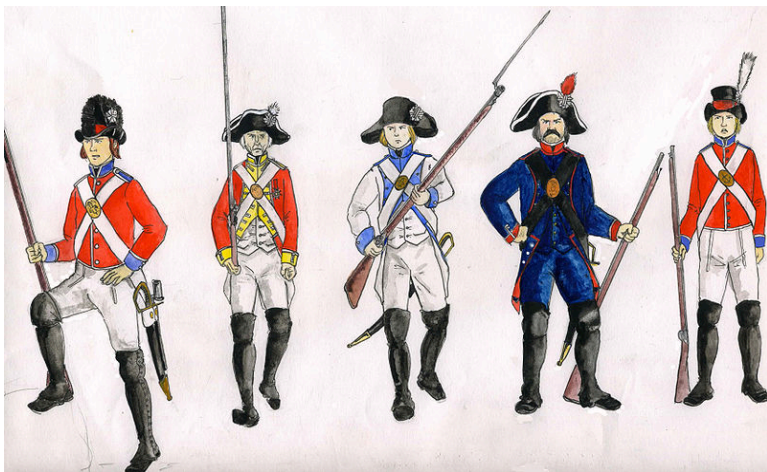


Aim: How did different groups vie for power during the French Revolution?



Get Going: The Declaration of the Rights of Women Reading

Let us spend some time talking about a group of people that it seems have been largely ignored as being an incredibly important and essential part of history and the development of mankind...



The Declaration of the Rights of Woman (September 1791)

MARIE GOUZE (1748–93) WAS A SELF-EDUCATED BUTCHER'S DAUGHTER FROM THE SOUTH OF FRANCE WHO, UNDER THE NAME OLYMPE DE GOUGES, WROTE PAMPHLETS AND PLAYS ON A VARIETY OF ISSUES, INCLUDING SLAVERY, WHICH SHE ATTACKED AS BEING FOUNDED ON GREED AND BLIND PREJUDICE. IN THIS PAMPHLET SHE PROVIDES A DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN TO PARALLEL THE ONE FOR MEN, THUS CRITICIZING THE DEPUTIES FOR HAVING FORGOTTEN WOMEN. SHE ADDRESSED THE PAMPHLET TO THE QUEEN, MARIE ANTOINETTE, THOUGH SHE ALSO WARNED THE QUEEN THAT SHE MUST WORK FOR THE REVOLUTION OR RISK DESTROYING THE MONARCHY ALTOGETHER. IN HER POSTSCRIPT SHE DENOUNCED THE CUSTOMARY TREATMENT OF WOMEN AS OBJECTS EASILY ABANDONED. SHE APPENDED TO THE DECLARATION A SAMPLE FORM FOR A MARRIAGE CONTRACT THAT CALLED FOR COMMUNAL SHARING OF PROPERTY. DE GOUGES WENT TO THE GUILLOTINE IN 1793, CONDEMNED AS A COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY AND DENOUNCED AS AN "UNNATURAL" WOMAN.

TO BE DECREED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN ITS LAST SESSIONS OR BY THE NEXT LEGISLATURE.

PREAMBLE.

MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS, SISTERS, FEMALE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATION ASK TO BE CONSTITUTED AS A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. CONSIDERING THAT IGNORANCE, NEGLECT, OR CONTEMPT FOR THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN ARE THE SOLE CAUSES OF PUBLIC MISFORTUNES AND GOVERNMENTAL CORRUPTION, THEY HAVE RESOLVED TO SET FORTH IN A SOLEMN DECLARATION THE NATURAL, INALIENABLE, AND SACRED RIGHTS OF WOMAN: SO THAT BY BEING CONSTANTLY PRESENT TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL BODY THIS DECLARATION MAY ALWAYS REMIND THEM OF THEIR RIGHTS AND DUTIES, SO THAT BY BEING LIABLE AT EVERY MOMENT TO COMPARISON WITH THE AIM OF ANY AND ALL POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS THE ACTS OF WOMEN'S AND MEN'S POWERS MAY BE THE MORE FULLY RESPECTED; AND SO THAT BY BEING FOUNDED HENCEFORWARD ON SIMPLE AND INCONTESTABLE PRINCIPLES THE DEMANDS OF THE CITIZENESSES MAY ALWAYS TEND TOWARD MAINTAINING THE CONSTITUTION, GOOD MORALS, AND THE GENERAL WELFARE.

IN CONSEQUENCE, THE SEX THAT IS SUPERIOR IN BEAUTY AS IN COURAGE, NEEDED IN MATERNAL SUFFERINGS, RECOGNIZES AND DECLARES, IN THE PRESENCE AND UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SUPREME BEING, THE FOLLOWING RIGHTS OF WOMAN AND THE CITIZENESS.

1. WOMAN IS BORN FREE AND REMAINS EQUAL TO MAN IN RIGHTS. SOCIAL DISTINCTIONS MAY BE BASED ONLY ON COMMON UTILITY.

Day 7

2. THE PURPOSE OF ALL POLITICAL ASSOCIATION IS THE PRESERVATION OF THE NATURAL AND IMPRESCRIPTIBLE RIGHTS OF WOMAN AND MAN. THESE RIGHTS ARE LIBERTY, PROPERTY, SECURITY, AND ESPECIALLY RESISTANCE TO OPPRESSION.

3. THE PRINCIPLE OF ALL SOVEREIGNTY RESTS ESSENTIALLY IN THE NATION, WHICH IS BUT THE REUNITING OF WOMAN AND MAN. NO BODY AND NO INDIVIDUAL MAY EXERCISE AUTHORITY WHICH DOES NOT EMANATE EXPRESSLY FROM THE NATION.

4. LIBERTY AND JUSTICE CONSIST IN RESTORING ALL THAT BELONGS TO ANOTHER; HENCE THE EXERCISE OF THE NATURAL RIGHTS OF WOMAN HAS NO OTHER LIMITS THAN THOSE THAT THE PERPETUAL TYRANNY OF MAN OPPOSES TO THEM; THESE LIMITS MUST BE REFORMED ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF NATURE AND REASON.

5. THE LAWS OF NATURE AND REASON PROHIBIT ALL ACTIONS WHICH ARE INJURIOUS TO SOCIETY. NO HINDRANCE SHOULD BE PUT IN THE WAY OF ANYTHING NOT PROHIBITED BY THESE WISE AND DIVINE LAWS, NOR MAY ANYONE BE FORCED TO DO WHAT THEY DO NOT REQUIRE.

6. THE LAW SHOULD BE THE EXPRESSION OF THE GENERAL WILL. ALL CITIZENESSES AND CITIZENS SHOULD TAKE PART, IN PERSON OR BY THEIR REPRESENTATIVES, IN ITS FORMATION. IT MUST BE THE SAME FOR EVERYONE. ALL CITIZENESSES AND CITIZENS, BEING EQUAL IN ITS EYES, SHOULD BE EQUALLY ADMISSIBLE TO ALL PUBLIC DIGNITIES, OFFICES AND EMPLOYMENTS, ACCORDING TO THEIR ABILITY, AND WITH NO OTHER DISTINCTION THAN THAT OF THEIR VIRTUES AND TALENTS.

7. NO WOMAN IS EXEMPTED. SHE IS INDICTED, ARRESTED, AND DETAINED IN THE CASES DETERMINED BY THE LAW. WOMEN LIKE MEN OBEY THIS RIGOROUS LAW.

8. ONLY STRICTLY AND OBVIOUSLY NECESSARY PUNISHMENTS SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED BY THE LAW, AND NO ONE MAY BE PUNISHED EXCEPT BY VIRTUE OF A LAW ESTABLISHED AND PROMULGATED BEFORE THE TIME OF THE OFFENSE, AND LEGALLY APPLIED TO WOMEN.

9. ANY WOMAN BEING DECLARED GUILTY, ALL RIGOR IS EXERCISED BY THE LAW.

10. NO ONE SHOULD BE DISTURBED FOR HIS FUNDAMENTAL OPINIONS; WOMAN HAS THE RIGHT TO MOUNT THE SCAFFOLD, SO SHE SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT EQUALLY TO MOUNT THE ROSTRUM, PROVIDED THAT THESE MANIFESTATIONS DO NOT TROUBLE PUBLIC ORDER AS ESTABLISHED BY LAW.

11. THE FREE COMMUNICATION OF THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS IS ONE OF THE MOST PRECIOUS OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN. SINCE THIS LIBERTY ASSURES THE RECOGNITION OF CHILDREN BY THEIR FATHERS, EVERY CITIZENESS MAY THEREFORE SAY FREELY, I AM THE MOTHER OF YOUR CHILD. A BARBAROUS PREJUDICE (AGAINST UNMARRIED WOMEN HAVING CHILDREN) SHOULD NOT FORCE HER TO HIDE THE TRUTH, SO LONG AS RESPONSIBILITY IS ACCEPTED FOR ANY

ABUSE OF THIS LIBERTY IN CASES DETERMINED BY THE LAW (WOMEN ARE NOT ALLOWED TO LIE ABOUT THE PATERNITY OF THEIR CHILDREN)

12. THE SAFEGUARD OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN AND THE CITIZENESS REQUIRES PUBLIC POWERS. THESE POWERS ARE INSTITUTED FOR THE ADVANTAGE OF ALL AND NOT FOR THE PRIVATE BENEFIT OF THOSE TO WHOM THEY ARE ENTRUSTED.

13. FOR MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC AUTHORITY AND FOR EXPENSES OF ADMINISTRATION, TAXATION OF WOMEN AND MEN IS EQUAL; SHE TAKES PART IN ALL FORCED LABOR SERVICE IN ALL PAINFUL TASKS; SHE MUST THEREFORE HAVE THE SAME PROPORTION IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF PLACES, EMPLOYMENTS, OFFICES, DIGNITIES, AND IN INDUSTRY.

14. THE CITIZENESSES AND CITIZENS HAVE THE RIGHT, BY THEMSELVES OR THROUGH THEIR REPRESENTATIVES, TO HAVE DEMONSTRATED TO THEM THE NECESSITY OF PUBLIC TAXES. THE CITIZENESSES CAN ONLY AGREE TO THEM UPON ADMISSION OF AN EQUAL DIVISION, NOT ONLY IN WEALTH, BUT ALSO IN THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, AND TO DETERMINE THE MEANS OF APPORTIONMENT, ASSESSMENT, AND COLLECTION, AND THE DURATION OF THE TAXES.

15. THE MASS OF WOMEN, JOINING WITH MEN IN PAYING TAXES, HAVE THE RIGHT TO HOLD ACCOUNTABLE EVERY PUBLIC AGENT OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

16. ANY SOCIETY IN WHICH THE GUARANTEE OF RIGHTS IS NOT ASSURED OR THE SEPARATION OF POWERS NOT SETTLED HAS NO CONSTITUTION. THE CONSTITUTION IS NULL AND VOID IF THE MAJORITY OF INDIVIDUALS COMPOSING THE NATION HAS NOT COOPERATED IN ITS DRAFTING.

17. PROPERTY BELONGS TO BOTH SEXES WHETHER UNITED OR SEPARATED; IT IS FOR EACH OF THEM AN INVIOABLE AND SACRED RIGHT, AND NO ONE MAY BE DEPRIVED OF IT AS A TRUE PATRIMONY OF NATURE, EXCEPT WHEN PUBLIC NECESSITY, CERTIFIED BY LAW, OBVIOUSLY REQUIRES IT, AND THEN ON CONDITION OF A JUST COMPENSATION IN ADVANCE
POSTSCRIPT

1. WHY DO YOU THINK OLYMPIA DE GOUGES WROTE THE DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN IN 1791?
2. THE DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN WAS WRITTEN 130 YEARS BEFORE WOMEN GOT THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES AND ALMOST 60 YEARS BEFORE THE SENECA FALLS CONVENTION. HOW DO YOU THINK THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD BE VIEWED TODAY?
3. IF YOU COULD SAY ANYTHING TO OLYMPIA DE GOUGES, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Women would go on to play a tremendous role in the French Revolution. In fact, in October of 1789, thousands of Parisian women rioted over the rising price of bread. Using knives, axes and other weapons, the women marched on Versailles. First, they demanded that the National Assembly take action to provide bread. then they turned their anger on the king and queen. They broke into the palace, killing guards along the way. The women demanded that Louis and Marie Antoinette return to Paris. After some time, Louis agreed. The king and queen would never return to their home

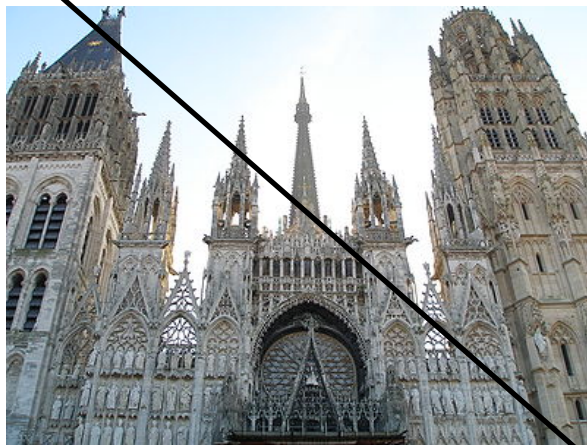
The French (and the world really) were not ready for women like Olympe de Gouges, and she was ultimately executed. In fact, the slogan of the French Revolution became very male centric:

Liberty

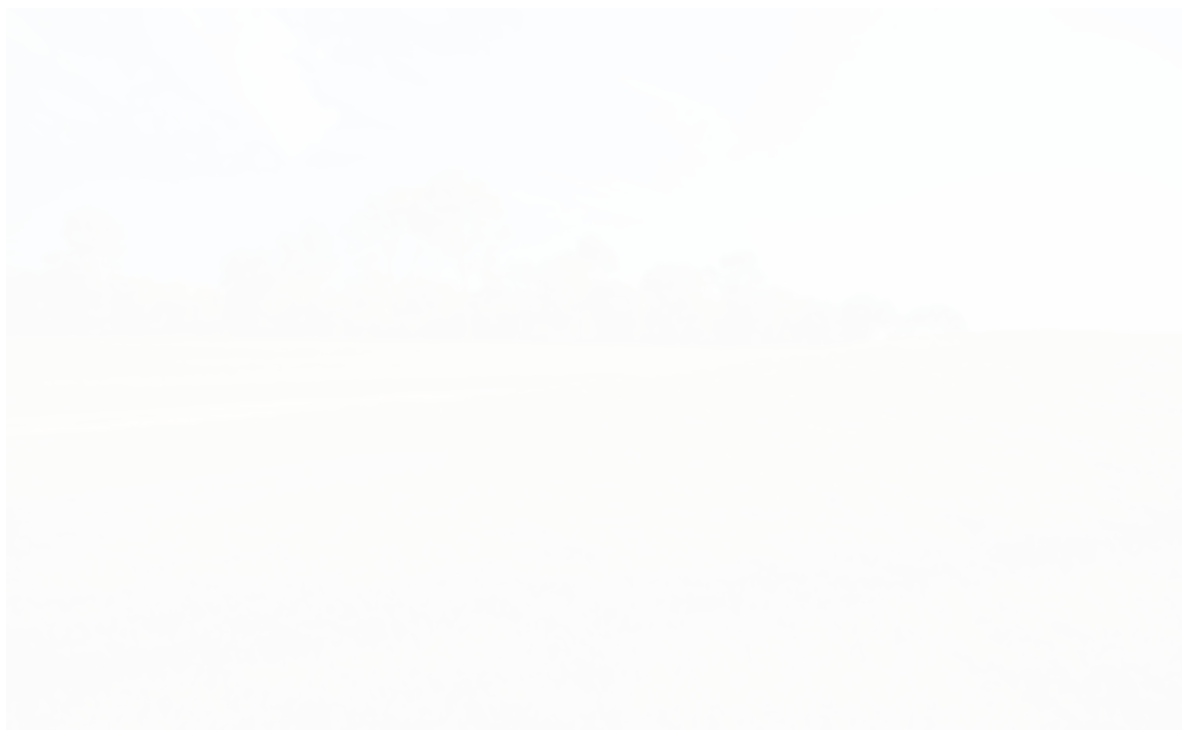
Equality

Fraternity ←

The early reforms on the National Assembly were not concerned with women's rights, but more so the power of the _____.



Think all the way back to the *Middle Ages*. What made the church so powerful?



The National Assembly took away land from the church and declared that officials and priests were to be elected and paid as state officials. This meant that the church lost not only their land... but their political independence (what is this called when politics and religion are kept separate?)



SECULARISM

Now this might seem like a good thing... however, many peasants were _____. They were opposed to the idea of the state controlling the Church and would begin to splinter from the national assembly. While this is going on though...



Source gallica.bnf.fr / Bibliothèque nationale de France

Flight to Varennes 1791

On the night of June 20, 1791, the King and Queen of France, Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette fled from their palace disguised as servants of the Russian Baroness de Korff. The King, Queen, their children and the King's sister passed the guards and escaped from the Tuilleries palace in Paris. They boarded a large coach headed toward the French frontier.

That night and the next day, they traveled over 200 miles through the French countryside in their large lumbering coach. They were fleeing from the French Revolution now in its third year.

That night of June 21, the longest day of the year, the summer solstice, their journey of escape came to an end. At the small town of Varennes, just 40 miles from the border with the Austrian Netherlands, the King and Queen were stopped by the townspeople, forced to admit their real identities and then forced to return to Paris.

General Lafayette and the Assembly on learning of their escape, demanded their return and sent representatives, Petion and Barnave to accompany Louis and Marie Antoinette back to Paris.

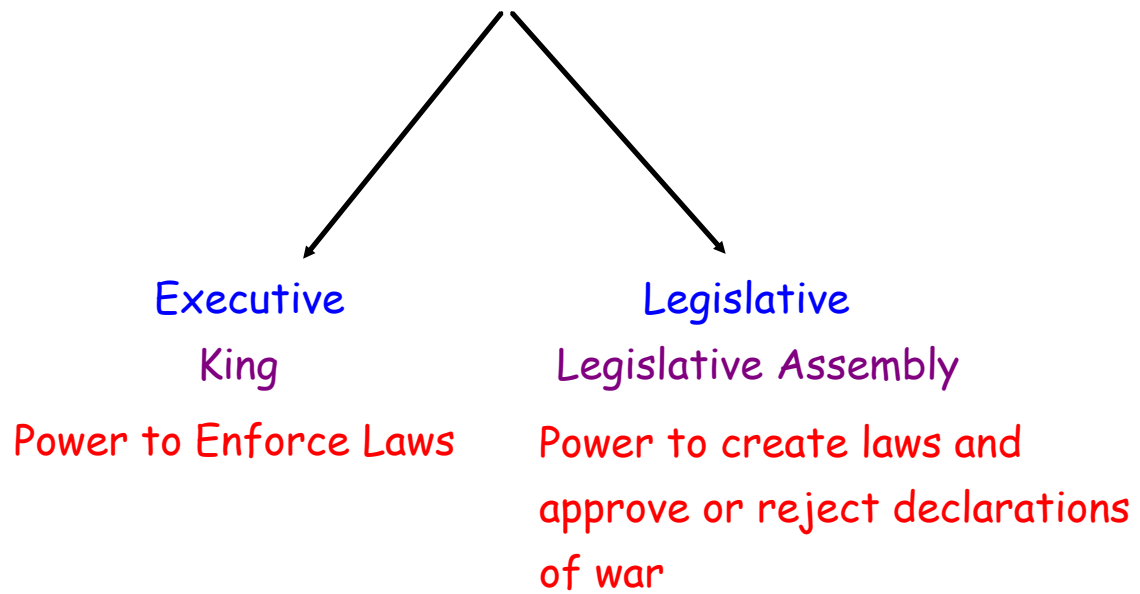
What followed for the royal family was 4 harrowing days of suffocating heat and constant humiliation as Louis and Marie Antoinette were subjected to the constant gaze, frequent taunts and insults from large crowds of their subjects. These were the common people of the French countryside who had never before in their lives seen their King and Queen. Now, they came by the thousands to see the famous royal couple. On their arrival in Paris, the royal family was met with complete silence from the huge crowds.

Once back in the Tuilleries palace, Louis, Antoinette and their family then faced a close guard under the direction of the French National Assembly. Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette would never again leave Paris. They would lose their crowns a year later. Then each would be tried and die by the blade of the guillotine in 1793.

1. Why do you think the King and Queen were attempting to escape France?
2. How did the flight work out for the King and Queen?
3. Do you think this ending for the King and Queen was inevitable? Why or why not?

Your answer to number three is based on ideas you have, but you do not have all of the information. Back in 1791, the National Assembly is still arguing over a new constitution. By September 1791, they finally complete the constitution which actually creates... a limited monarchy! Remember, these are people heavily influenced by the Enlightenment, and they weren't completely against the idea of having a central authority. However...

The Results of the French Constitution:

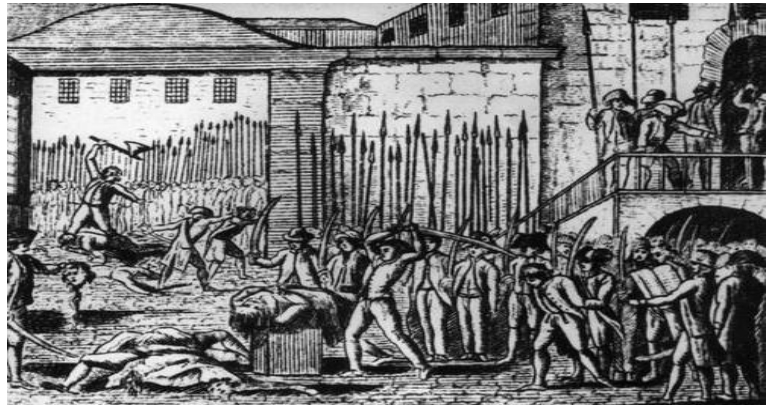


This new body of government did not solve the old problems... mainly, there were still food shortages and incredible government debt. Due to these problems, the Legislative Assembly splintered into three groups:

Radicals (left)	Moderates (Middle)	Conservatives (Right)
Opposed the idea of the monarchy and wanted completed changes to the government	Some changes in government, but not many	Wanted the limited monarchy and few changes to the government

All of this leads to... War!

But not a French civil war, a war with Prussia who threatened to destroy Paris if any of the royal family members were harmed. In the summer of 1792 as they approached Paris, local Parisians broke into where the King and Queen were staying. They massacred the royal guards and imprisoned the King, Queen and their children. In September of 1792, Parisians broke into prisons and killed over 1,000 nobles, priests and royalists in what was known as the September Massacres.



Wait..who is running this revolution?

Who's in Charge Here?



Robespierre: Blood and Terror

Born on May 6, 1758 in prerevolutionary France, Maximilien Robespierre became devoted to the ideals of Enlightenment philosopher, Jean Jacques Rousseau. Robespierre was elected as a Third Estates deputy to the Estates General, an organization representing the three social classes of pre-revolutionary France.

Joining forces with individuals committed to similar ideals during the early years of the French Revolution, Robespierre became known for his brilliant oratory (speaking) abilities and attracted many followers.

Eventually, with other like-minded individuals, Robespierre participated in "The Society of the Friends of the Constitution" which later became known as the Jacobin Club. By 1790, he was elected President of the Jacobin Club. When France's monarch, Louis XVI, and his wife, Marie Antoinette, attempted to flee France and were arrested and detained, the Jacobins accused them of conspiring with anti-revolutionary forces. Through pressure from the radicals, the king and queen were executed.



By July 1793, Robespierre was elected a member of the new chief executive body known as the "Committee for Public Safety" which governed France. However, with France being attacked from nations supporting monarchy such as Austria and Prussia, Robespierre and the Committee for Public Safety began a campaign to eliminate all "enemies" of the revolution. The guillotine became the symbol of this New France as the Reign of Terror had begun.

Primary Source: An excerpt from a speech given by Robespierre on the purpose of revolutionary government (the caveonline.com)

"Revolution is the war waged by liberty against its enemies; a constitution is that which crowns the edifice of freedom once victory has been won and the nation is at peace."

Day 7

The revolutionary government has to summon extraordinary activity to its aid precisely because it is at war... The principal concern of constitutional government is civil Liberty; that of revolutionary government, public liberty. Under a constitutional government little more is required than to protect the individual against abuses by the state, whereas revolutionary government is obliged to defend the state itself against the factions that assail it from every quarter. To good citizens revolutionary government owes the full protection of the state; to the enemies of the people it owes only death."

Questions:

- 1-Why and how did Robespierre rise to power early on in the French Revolution?
- 2-What group did Robespierre belong to and what did they later change their name to?
- 3-What decision did the Jacobins ultimately make about what to do with the King and Queen?
- 4-Do you believe the "Committee for Public Safety" deserved that name? Why or why not?
- 5-According to Robespierre, what was the purpose of revolutionary government?

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