

Politics and Government

Why do we need to learn this?!

- 🌐 the word “government” has its roots in both Greek and Latin mean “to steer.”
- 🌐 A government is the way a group of people come together to organize their affairs and decide how to get things done
- 🌐 How do you know what type of government to create?
 - 🌐 One way to know is if the citizens of your nation-state are more interventionist or individualist

Interventionist

- Helping others is the purpose of life
- Humans are good but are helpless
- Crime prevention – rehabilitation is necessary
- Government intervention is necessary
- People need to trust big government

Individualist

- Self development is the purpose of life
- Human nature is resourceful and competitive
- Crime prevention – harsh punishments will deter
- Humans need to fend for themselves
- People should not trust big government

Personal Ideology survey and class discussion

- 🌐 Students who want to go to university should pay for it because they will get repaid with higher wages
- 🌐 Foreign aid to developing countries should not come out of government funds
- 🌐 There needs to be censorship of books, magazines and the Internet
- 🌐 The gun control laws do not prevent crime and should be abolished
- 🌐 Prisons should be uncomfortable places that provide only the bare minimum of humane care for inmates in order to discourage them from further crime.
- 🌐 Canada should make a conscious attempt to create a single identity rather than encouraging multiculturalism
- 🌐 Allowing gay marriage opens the door to loosing all morals in society
- 🌐 No loyal Canadian should be concerned if the government decides to collect information on any citizen it wants to.
- 🌐 Schools should bring back corporal punishment
- 🌐 The government should make it more difficult for refugees to enter Canada

Political/ Economic Grid

Economic Spectrum

Political Spectrum

Combining Spectrums

Working with Spectrums



Individualist

POLITICAL SPECTRUM

Interventionist

Interventionist

Dictatorship

Democracy

Dictatorship



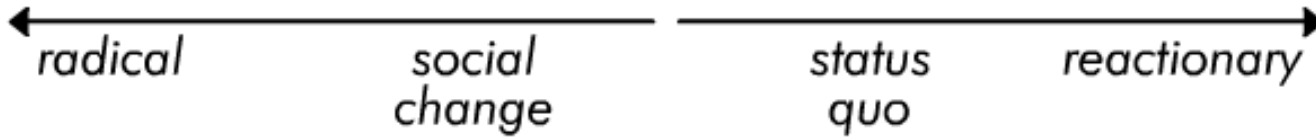
extreme
left wing

left wing

centre

right wing

extreme
right wing



l i b e r a l i s m

communism

socialism

conservatism

fascism



Individualist

POLITICAL SPECTRUM

Interventionist

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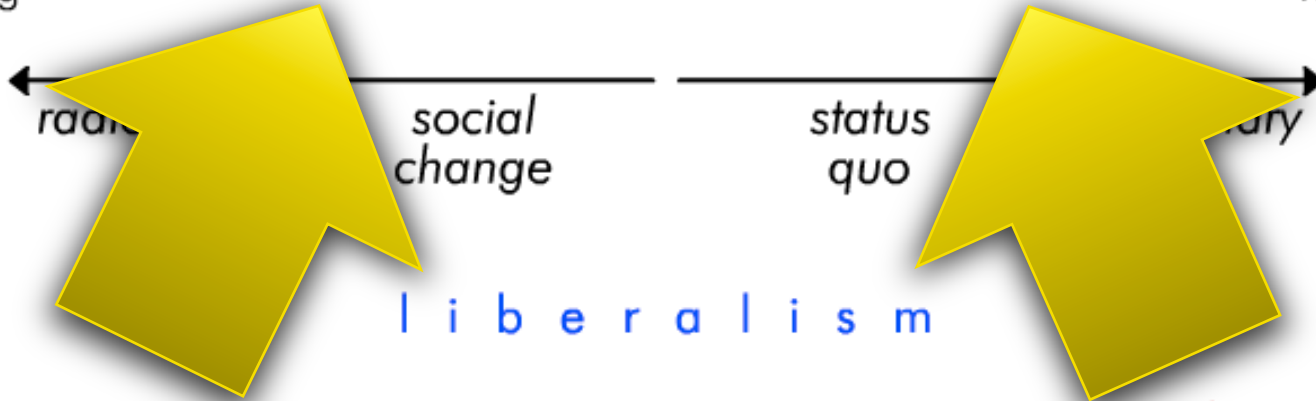
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Left-wing vs Right-wing

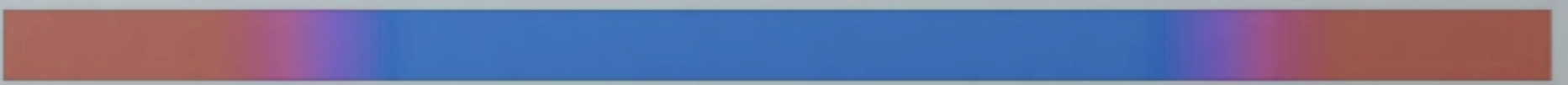
- 🌐 Historical origin – the French Revolution (people sitting on the left were average people while people sitting on the right were the aristocracy)
- 🌐 Left wing – more interventionist, wanting more taxation to provide more social programs, but often wanting to provide more rights for alternative lifestyles
- 🌐 Right wing – more individualist, with less taxation so people take care of themselves, but often want to protect tradition so there may be more rules to prevent the acceptance of alternative lifestyles

POLITICAL SPECTRUM

Dictatorship

Democracy

Dictatorship



extreme
left wing

left wing

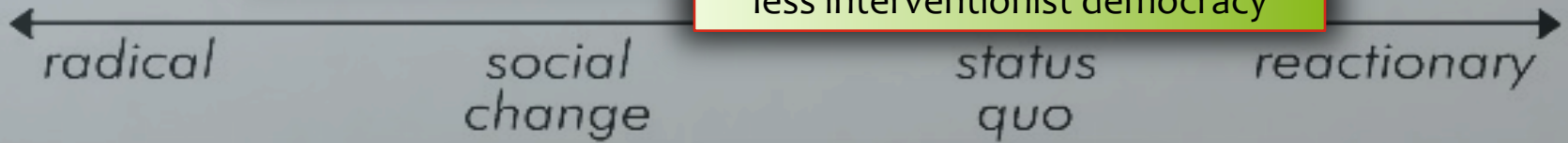
centre

right wing

extreme
right wing

more interventionist democracy

less interventionist democracy

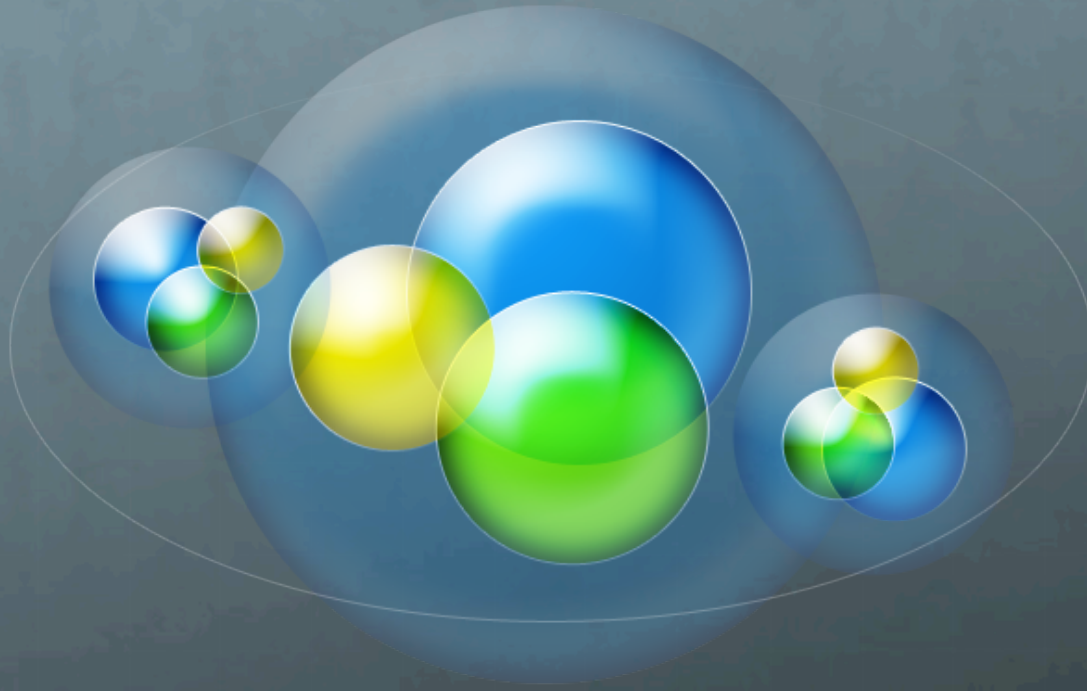


communism


socialism

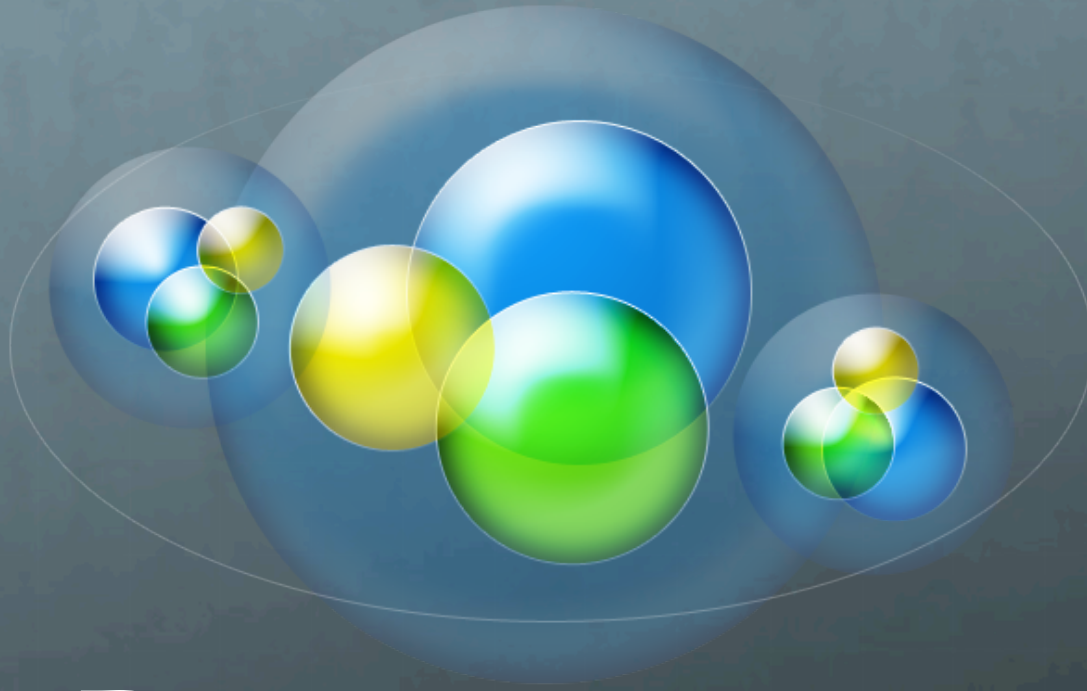
conservatism

fascism



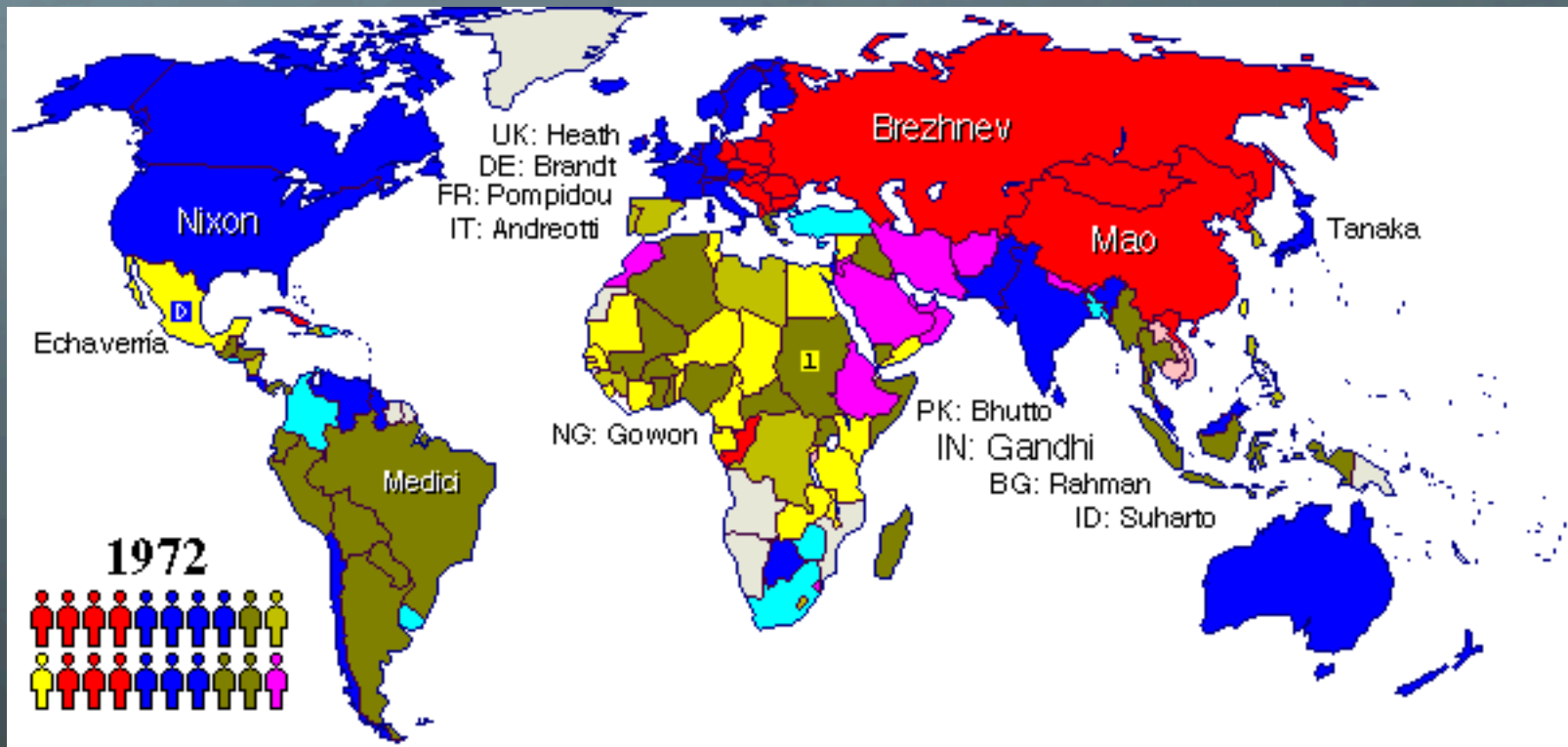
**Canada's democratic
government**

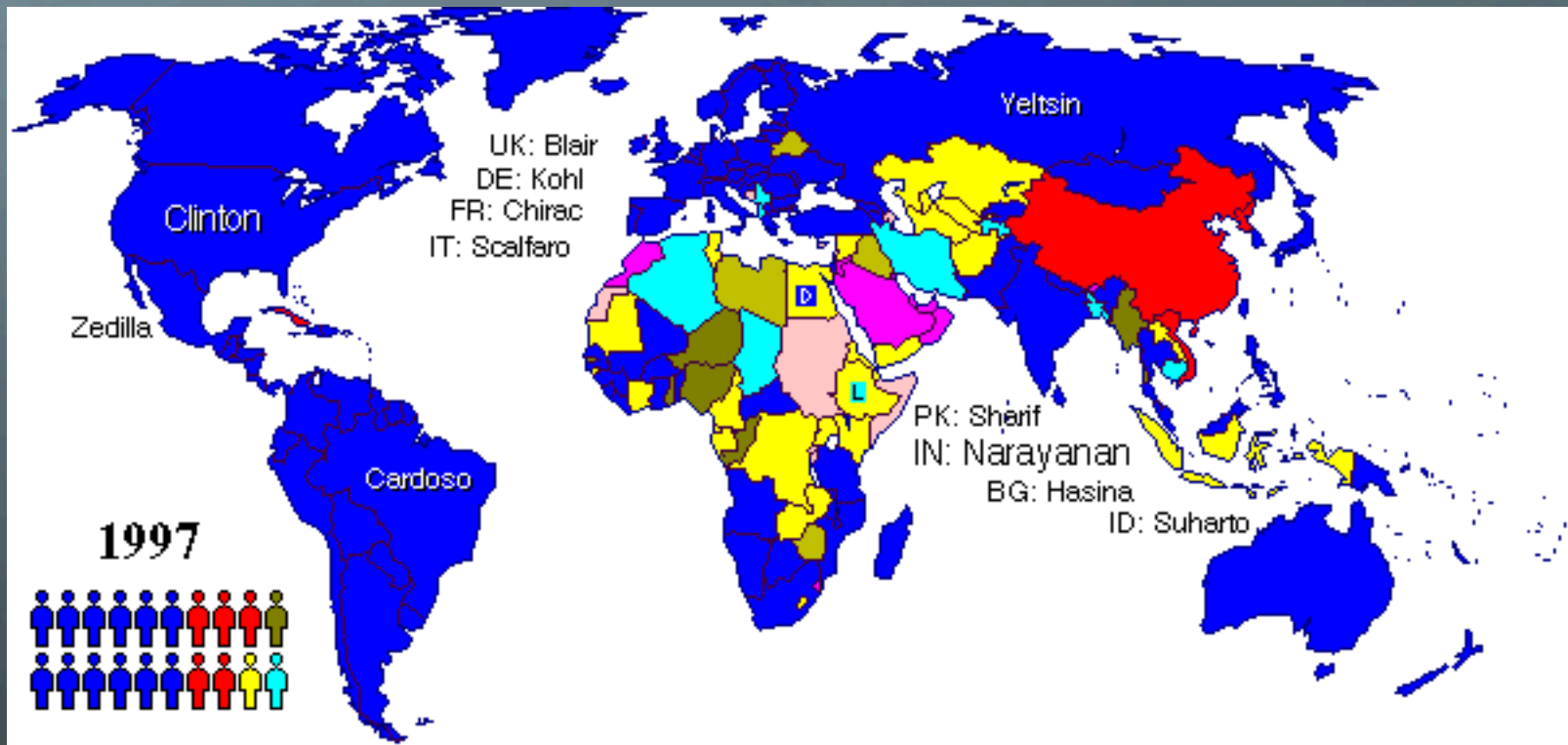
 We cannot work or eat or drink; we cannot buy or sell or own anything; we cannot go to a ball game or a hockey game or watch TV without feeling the effects of government. We cannot marry or educate our children, cannot be sick, born or buried without the hand of government somewhere intervening. Government gives us railways, roads and airlines; sets the conditions that affect farms and industries; manages or mismanages the life and growth of the cities. Government is held responsible for social problems, and for pollution and sick environments. Government is our creature. We make it, we are ultimately responsible for it, and, taking the broad view, in Canada we have considerable reason to be proud of it. Pride, however, like patriotism, can never be a static thing; there are always new problems posing new challenges. The closer we are to government, and the more we know about it, the more we can do to help meet these challenges.

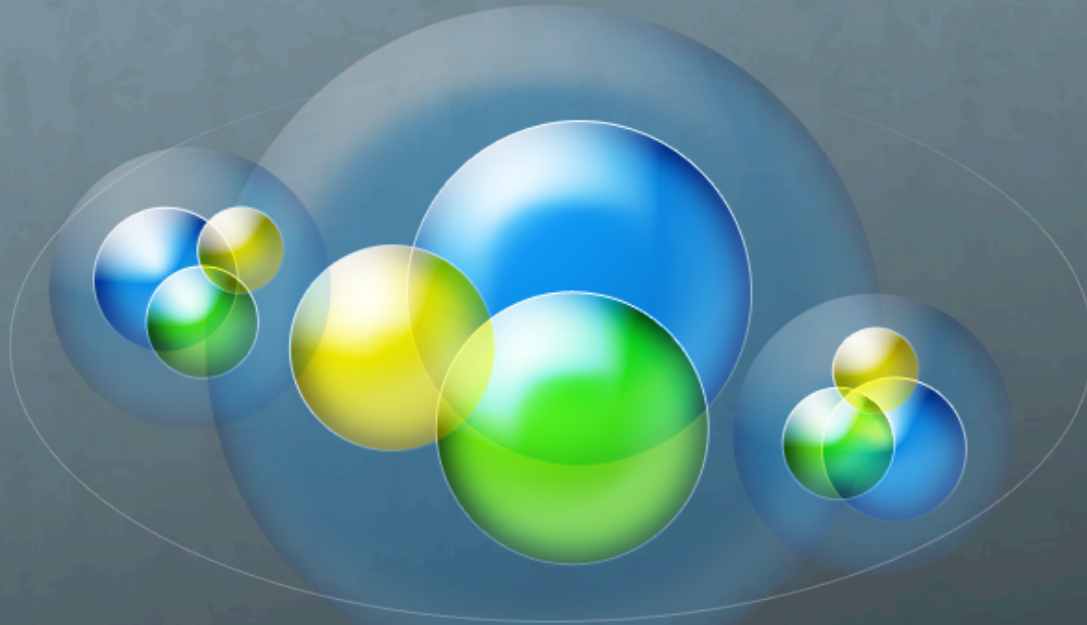


Democracy:

where the majority rules with respect for
the rights of the minority







Model (perfect, direct) Democracy

In a liberal democratic society you should not need a reason to make something legal, you should only need a reason to make something illegal.

Why does Canada want democracy?

- 🌐 Greatest amount of freedom possible within this system
- 🌐 Responds to the will of the people
- 🌐 Encourages individual creativity
- 🌐 Allows for a peaceful and orderly change of government



How does a pure democracy work?

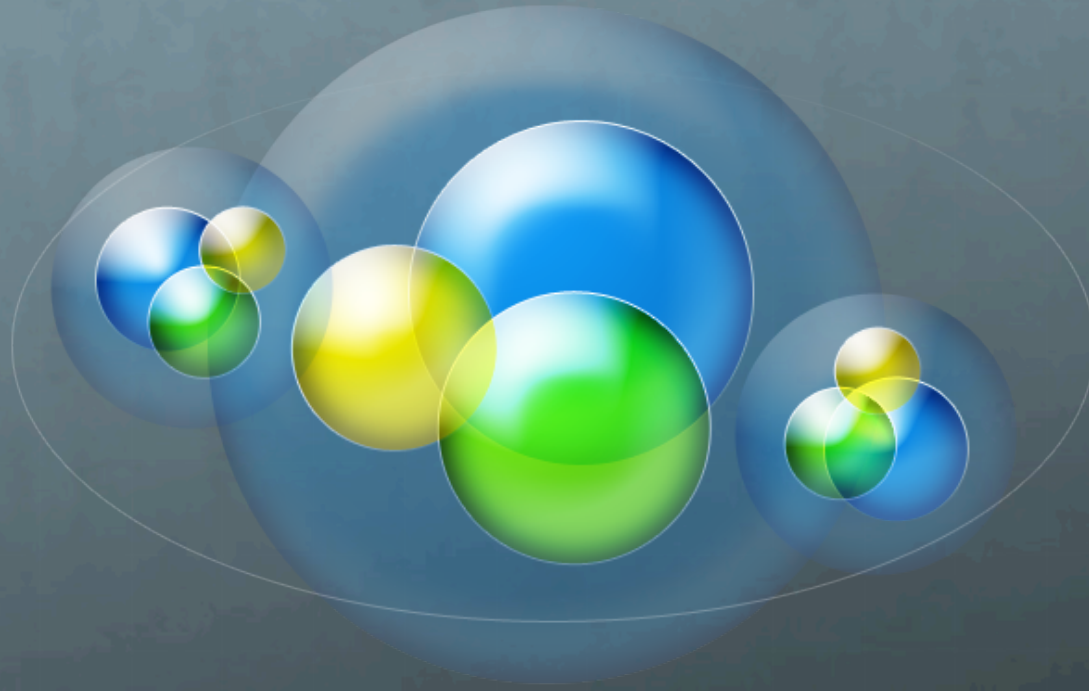
- 🌐 All people rule in all aspects; all public decisions would be made by all citizens
- 🌐 Majority rules with all being equal (politically and legally; one man – one vote)
- 🌐 A method of communication is established and an exchange of information is allowed
- 🌐 People are educated and informed

But the problem is we don't have the time or space for everyone in Canada to make decisions on every law.

Canada's representative democracy

- Only one decision needs to be made: choosing a representative (who has the time to be more informed and should have more interest)
- To be sure those representatives are democratic there are some rules to follow:
 - Representation by population
 - Periodic elections
 - Secret ballot
 - Independent courts
 - Free press
 - Political parties
 - Lobby groups
 - Power of the purse





Levels of Government in Canada

Federal Provincial Municipal










- 🌐 1864-1867 Fathers of Confederation (the guys who created Canada)
- 🌐 Created a federal system because of the diversity of cultures and communities – this means shared power between different levels of government



- 🌐 Local – municipal: responsible for things like water distribution and garbage control
- 🌐 Regional – provincial: responsible for things like resources and education
- 🌐 Central (whole country) – federal: responsible for things like defense and international trade



Key terms we covered today

-  Democracy
-  Direct democracy
-  Representative democracy
-  Federal
-  Governance
-  Government
-  Municipal
-  Provincial
-  Sovereignty