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## Liberal political thought

1. a tendency to favor change
2. faith in human reason
3. willingness to use government to improve the human condition
4. preference for individual freedom but ambivalence about economic freedom
5. greater optimism about human nature than conservatives

## Conservative political thought

1. resistance to change
2. reverence for tradition and a distrust of human reason
3. rejection of the use of government to improve the human condition— ambivalence regarding governmental activity for other purposes
4. preference for individual freedom but willingness to limit freedom to maintain traditional values
5. anti-egalitarianism—distrust of human nature

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## Democracy Elements

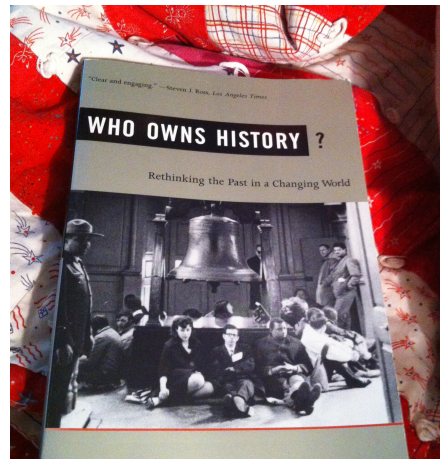
### Types of liberty

It is more difficult to define types of liberty than types of equality but, loosely, civil rights include the following specific liberties or freedoms:

1. the right to vote
2. freedom of speech
3. freedom of the press
4. freedom of assembly
5. freedom of religion
6. freedom of movement
7. freedom from arbitrary treatment by the political and legal system

### The 7 things that holds americans together

1. common language
2. egalitarianism
3. economic abundance
4. xenophobia-anti-European ideas
5. Tradition of Loyal opposition
6. Separation of Church and State
7. Northwest Ordinance



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## Ideas for long-term study of America, can you do it?

We have ideas that we need to remember all year, especially when you become voters in our Democracy. Voting Equality at the ballot box entails the following:

- 1. Each individual must have reasonably easy access to the place of voting.
- 2. Each person must be free to cast his or her own vote as he or she wishes.
- 3. Each vote must be given exactly the same weight when counted.



# 3 documents that make us Americans!



## Declaration of Independence

### Four Principles of Government

Principle 1 All people are created equal.

Principle 2 All people have basic rights that cannot be taken away.

Principle 3 The government gets its power to make decisions and to protect rights from the people.

Principle 4 When the government does not protect the rights of the people, the people have the right to change or remove the government.



## United States Constitution

This is the law of the land. We are a country that follows written laws, not ideas that are arbitrary and capricious actions that are made up by people at any moment.

## Bill of Rights

These ideas were debated between the Federalist and Anti-Federalists by 1787. We will be spending time on these on every chapter.



## Ten Things Everyone Should

Try to see how these ideas can change how we work with one another and change relations to all the people in our lives. History can truly change the way we think about anything.

- 1 **Race is a modern idea.** Ancient societies, like the Greeks, did not divide people according to physical differences, but according to religion, status, class or even language. The English word "race" turns up for the first time in a 1500 poem by William Dunbar referring to a line of kings.
- 2 **Race has no genetic basis.** Not one characteristic, trait or even gene distinguishes all the members of one so-called race from all the members of another so-called race.
- 3 **Human subspecies don't exist.** Unlike many animals, modern humans simply haven't been around long enough, nor have populations been isolated enough, to evolve into separate subspecies or races. On average, only one of every thousand of the nucleotides that make up our DNA differ one human from another. We are one of the most genetically similar of all species.
- 4 **Skin color really is only skin deep.** The genes for skin color have nothing to do with genes for hair form, eye shape, blood type, musical talent, athletic ability or forms of intelligence. Knowing someone's skin color doesn't necessarily tell you anything else about them.
- 5 **Most variation is within, not between, "races."** Of the small amount of total human variation, 85% exists within any local population. About 94% can be found within any continent. That means, for example, that two random Koreans may be as genetically different as a Korean and an Italian.
- 6 **Slavery predates race.** Throughout much of human history, societies have enslaved others, often as a result of conquest or debt, but not because of physical characteristics or a belief in natural inferiority. Due to a unique set of historical circumstances, North America has the first slave system where all slaves shared a common appearance and ancestry.
- 7 **Race and freedom were born together.** The U.S. was founded on the principle that "All men are created equal," but the country's early economy was based largely on slavery. The new idea of race helped explain why some people could be denied the rights and freedoms that others took for granted.
- 8 **Race justified social inequalities as natural.** The "common sense" belief in white superiority justified anti-democratic action and policies like slavery, the extermination of American Indians, the exclusion of Asian immigrants, the taking of Mexican lands, and the institutionalization of racial practices within American government, laws, and society.
- 9 **Race isn't biological, but racism is still real.** Race is a powerful social idea that gives people different access to opportunities and resources. The government and social institutions of the United States have created advantages that disproportionately channel wealth, power and resources to white people.
- 10 **Colorblindness will not end racism.** Pretending race doesn't exist is not the same as creating equality.

## Know about Race

Professor Horton says: We are a society based on principles literally to die for. Principles that are so wonderful it brings tears to your eyes. But we are a society that so often allows itself to ignore those principles. We live in a kind of heightened state of anxiety because we know we aren't what we could be or what we say we are.

