

Govt 1-1

What is government?

Institution through which societies rule are made and enforced. Made up of those who have power and authority over other people

Public policies: things a government decides to do (tax, Min wage, etc)

Who are these people: leg, judges, executives, admin's

The state: body of people living in defined area and organized

## **Characteristics:**

Population

Territory: with known and recognized boundaries (Israel, N and S Ireland ?)

Sovereignty:

Has power within its own territory, not controlled by others

Government:

Politically organized , makes and enforces public policies

Made-up of machinery and people by which state is ruled

## **Origin of the State**

Force theory: a person or group gained control and became an early gov't

Evolutionary theory: developed naturally out of each family, head of family was head of gov, families banded together by clan, clans became tribes.....

Divine right theory: rulers were placed by the will of God

Social contract theory:

Locke, Hobbes, Rousseau

Hobbes: "life is nasty brutish and short", people agreed to create gov for more security , state is to serve the will of the people

Declaration of independence based on this theory-

# Purpose of Government

Told in preamble to constitution

- 1 form a more perfect union: to replace the articles of confederation
  - 2 to establish justice: most important of gov duties (jefferson), laws to be reasonable, fair, and impartial
  - 3 Insure domestic tranquility: keep the peace at home, must be strong enough to keep order
  - 4 to provide for the common defense: defend against others, mentioned more than any other function in the constitution,
  - 5 to promote the general welfare: servant of the citizens (air, food, water quality, schools)
- 6 to secure the blessings of liberty, guarantees of certain rights and liberties for all people in a nation; people must be willing to defend them