

Changes made during the French Revolution

1) Declaration on the Rights of Man & Citizen ***

- Document created by the National Assembly
- King Louis XVI was forced to sign it into law
- Greatly influenced by the ideas of the Enlightenment
- Listed and granted protection on the natural rights of French citizens



2) Limited Monarchy

- National Assembly forced King Louis XVI to gradually give up his political power
- The National Assembly creates a new constitution for France which gives them the power to create laws
- Eventually the National Assembly evolves into the Legislative Assembly

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The Legislative Assembly

Radicals	Moderates	Conservatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sat on the left side of the hall; were called left-wing and said to be on the left • opposed the king and the idea of a monarchy • wanted sweeping changes in government and proposed that common people have full power in a republic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sat in the center of the hall and were called centrists • wanted some changes in government, but not as many as the radicals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sat on the right side of the hall; were called right-wing and said to be on the right • upheld the idea of a limited monarchy • wanted few changes in government



SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Charts

1. What do the divisions in the Legislative Assembly say about the differences in French society?
2. What similarities and differences do you see between the political factions in the Legislative Assembly and those in the U.S. government today?

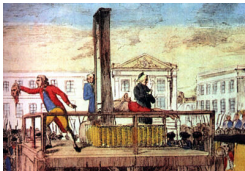
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3) Execution of King Louis XVI

- King Louis XVI was forced to move from Versailles into the city of Paris
- He tried to escape with his family into Austria, but was caught
- King Louis XVI was put on trial for treason and was found guilty by the Jacobins

Jacobins = radical group that wanted to remove the absolute monarch and establish a republic

- He was sentenced to death and was executed by the Guillotine
- Marie Antoinette was also executed



Total weight of a guillotine was about 5000 lbs (2270kg)
The blade weighed over 40 lbs (18 kg)
Height of the guillotine was over 10 ft (3 m)
The blade was made of steel (1000 lbs)
Power of the guillotine was 400 lbs (180 kg) per square inch.



Coroner's Report: THE GUILLOTINE

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4) Robespierre & the Reign of Terror



- After King Louis XVI was executed France fell into a state of chaos b/c for the first time they did not have a King
- Maximilien Robespierre emerged as the new political leader of France
- He was the head of the Committee of Public Safety
 - Committee was in charge of finding people that did not support the revolution
 - Even if you supported the revolution and you did not participate in it, YOU COULD BE EXECUTED!!!
 - Robespierre and the Committee of Public Safety started the **Reign of Terror** to control France

Total Deaths: 40,000 in 1793-1794



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