

## Enlightenment Activity

The Enlightenment is incredibly relevant to our current world. Ideas and theories proposed by Locke, Hobbes, Voltaire, Montesquieu, Rousseau, Beccaria, and Wollstonecraft are included in our Declaration of Independence and Constitution, and have highly impacted our government.

That being said, there are still issues and controversies with the way the United States' government is run.

### Directions:

- Choose one of the modern-day issues below that interests you the most (if you want to explore something not on this list, ask me first).
- Then, examine how **one or two Enlightenment philosophers** would feel about that issue.
  - o Take their specific perspective, and incorporate it into your final product.
- Your final product should show thought and research about the specific topic, and should show understanding of the Enlightenment philosopher's perspective

What can your **final product** look like? That's up to you! It can be a comic strip, a political cartoon, a short essay, a podcast, a speech, a poster, a storyboard... get creative!

### Topic options:

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| - Crime and violence   | - Mental health                            |
| - Economic issues, such as wage gap, division between classes, minimum wage, etc | - Police profiling and targeting           |
| - Education  | - Power of the federal government          |
| - Environmental issues, including deforestation, fracking, climate change, etc   | - Punishment of crimes and violence        |
| - Federal deficit and debt   | - Religious freedoms and religious liberty |
| - Gun violence   | - Social inequality                        |
| - Healthcare   | - Social Security and its longevity        |
| - Homelessness   | - Social stratification                    |
| - Hunger   | - Terrorism                                |
| - Immigration  | - Two-party system                         |
| - Impeachment  | - Unemployment                             |
|  | - Women's rights                           |
|  | - Other? Ask me! ☺                         |

*This is due on **WEDNESDAY** at the **BEGINNING OF CLASS**.  
You will have most of class on Friday to work on it (and the whole four-day weekend!).*