*Political Philosophy*

Examples of political theories often involve clashes between being centered on the individual or the community as a whole. Some compromises must be made in order to benefit either the individual or the community. These ideas are based off of the basis of human nature, whether we are selfish and greedy (and need be kept in check), or whether we are cooperative and respectful and can manage ourselves.

This brings up a lot of issues on what type of government should be put in place. Should we protected/promised with things like free speech, voting, and weapons?

Should God be involved in the government? Do we all have the same rights or are we born unequal?

What if someone says they are taking orders from God? There is no way to validate that, or know that their interpretation of God’s will is accurate.

*What Makes Institutions Just or Unjust?*

There are certain things that we aren’t allowed to do that the government has full power to do, and has a system in place for it (Like taking from the rich and giving to the poor, or restricting peoples diets by making certain foods restricted or illegal). What makes these institutions – rules of the game that structure social life – just or unjust?

Some people only care about “what works”. But that isn’t the correct question, the proper question is “what is working? What is the definition of working?” What exactly counts as something that is a working institution?

Political theory decides how people should be governed either as individuals or groups and why the way they are governed is just. It’s an arbitrary reasoning system.

*Authoritarianism (Thomas Hobbes)*

The idea that human nature is one of evil doing, people are selfish and greedy and without order we will only be interested in the wellbeing of ourselves. People are rational instead of reasonable. Hobbes thinks that everyone his narcissistic traits.

Absolute Sovereign has a judge, jury, and executioner – used to inforce social contracts. People will then be willing to obey authority.