

Alternatives	
Government's Social Responsibilities & Issues	Infrastructure public services gender gap press freedom conflict management awareness campaign foreign policy equality affordable housing domestic policy
Punishment	Penalty criminal record
Government primary duty	the authorities' chief responsibility the main role of those in power their leaders' job
citizens	the public the population the people
society	in their communities in local activities
country	state homeland national culture society

<i>the media</i>	<i>the press</i> <i>reporters</i>
<i>change it</i>	<i>bring about change</i> <i>make a difference</i> <i>help it evolve</i>
<i>moving to another country</i>	<i>moving abroad</i> <i>going overseas</i> <i>emigrating</i> <i>quitting their land for a new home</i>
<i>perpetrates</i> a violent crime against others	<i>commits</i> <i>is involved in</i> <i>engages in</i>
put in jail	sentenced to prison sent to jail/prison imprisoned
prevent minor <i>violations of the law</i>	<i>unlawful acts</i> <i>crimes,</i> <i>misdeeds</i>
hand out punishments as needed	<i>administer fines</i> , penalties, discipline discipline penalize

pass/introduce legislation bring in/ <b>implement laws</b>	<b>stimulate the <i>economy</i>,</b>
take measures/action	short-term results
in the long-run	peaceful protests
commit a crime scene of the crime <b>street crime</b>	peer pressure
raise / lower taxes provide funding	take action
social insurance	vote for / against
carry weight	regime change
economically struggling countries	people's fundamental right to vote for/pick/choose their leaders
<b>Pass a law to fine people who..</b>	Deter sb from doing sth
<b>Pose risk to sth/life</b>	
<b>Leaders (Elites)</b> usually higher education; business knowledge (help economy); larger network; often speak more than one language, can interact with foreign leaders;	

### Accountability

- means taking responsibility for one's actions
- politicians that don't fear repercussions cannot lead properly
- **punishment should fit the crime;**
- **actions have consequences**
- **build public trust;**
- **protect taxpayers' money;**
- **prevent shift to dictatorship**

### Poverty

- it is the government's responsibility to ensure every child has a roof over his/her head and food on the table
- poverty is a result of upbringing and education and it is government's duty to make sure **everyone has an equal opportunity;**

### Examples:

To illustrate, consider a man who  
may have been affected  
Take for instance a senior citizen who is

people can **truly chase and fulfill their dreams**

In fact, **suicide and alcoholism rates** in these communities are significantly higher than the national average

### Deterrents

**Punishments are supposed to deter people from engaging** in criminal actions  
Do deterrents work?

- Vast resources **are not exploited to their full potential** because there are not enough experts in this country who can do it
- **these resources are untapped** because **we lack the technology** and know-how to extract them from the earth

### Voting

- believe that they **have no influence on government policies and actions** and that **their vote, therefore, is of little significance**; consequently, they believe that voting during elections is a waste of time and energy.
- young, have **become apathetic towards governments** they consider themselves powerless to change.
- entire segment of the population can **make all the difference in the world** and is **therefore worthwhile**.
- one **vote may be just a drop in the ocean**, but **when collected into a wave it can move mountains**.

there been a counterbalance in

for the sake of stability and fairness,

Government Control		Individual freedom
Pros	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make sure we don't harm ourselves or those around us</li> <li>• establish tolerance, or at least security</li> <li>• regulate industries so that they do not exploit the consumer</li> <li>• lower crime rate</li> <li>• fair distribution of goods, jobs, wealth</li> <li>• ensure safety; prevent crime</li> <li>• protect children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how to use our time, money, energies, talents/abilities, affections</li> <li>• can explore and innovate;</li> <li>• respect others</li> <li>• <b>instills a sense of competition</b>, necessitates cooperation</li> <li>• take responsibility for our thoughts and actions</li> <li>• build skills (decision making, time management, critical thinking)</li> <li>• , challenge old and outdated ideas</li> </ul>
Cons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• take away individual responsibility;</li> <li>• <b>limited imagination</b>, curiosity,</li> <li>• higher suicide rate;</li> <li>• laziness, <b>lack of motivation to strive</b> higher</li> <li>• no privacy; <b>reduce individuality</b>;</li> <li>• gives the monitors too much power (works against democracy)</li> <li>• easy to manipulate public opinion;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> </ul>

## Examples of Areas in which the government may mandate behavior

forced retirement savings		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poor elderly people <b>relying on government support</b> are a <b>burden</b> on young taxpayers</li> </ul>
minimum age requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>government must set minimum ages to drink alcohol, smoke, drive, vote, join the military, get married, buy property, start a business, etc. to <b>protect inexperienced/uneducated, immature</b>, and/or desperate young people;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>age does not determine ability or readiness for any of these actions;</li> <li>can potentially limit intelligent, advanced young people</li> <li>smart young people will find ways around the restrictions,</li> </ul>
minimum wage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensure workers are not exploited;</li> <li>everyone an equal chance to get started;</li> <li>ensure men and women get equal pay for equal work;</li> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>too much regulation limits free market economics;</b></li> <li>higher costs for companies means higher prices for consumers;</li> <li>less incentive for workers to work harder to advance</li> </ul>
national service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>helps young people mature and gain discipline</li> <li>provides work experience, skills training, networking; connection to national interest</li> <li>potential to learn marketable skills (tech, leadership, etc.);</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>potential for PTSD</li> <li>disrupts academic/career path for duration of service</li> <li></li> </ul>

### Distracted Drivers

- the number of fatal traffic accidents caused by distracted drivers is increasing
- asking governments to **implement stronger laws to deter drivers** from texting and driving.
- caused by **inattentive drivers** =
- **Distracted drivers** are selfish They do not seem to **care for the welfare of those around them**
- governments need to do even more to **tackle this dangerous phenomenon**.
- **using hand-held devices** while operating motorized vehicles
- **have a substantial impact** on
- **deter most people from committing** the offence
- **implement a zero-tolerance policy**,
- those of the modern generation **who barely ever put down their mobile gadgets**.
- they need to put safety above all else.
- **road safety needs to be every driver's top priority**.
- Those who are too selfish to care about others should be punished severely for **putting those others at risk**, and they should, moreover, be **thoroughly educated about the rules of the road**.

### Making Life-Style Decisions

- a government should only be an **administrative body that oversees** (Supervise) the **everyday business of running a country** and **should not get involved in making lifestyle decisions** for its people.
- As the world's population grows, many **question the function of government**.
- In other words, once **we allow politicians to decide what is right or wrong in terms of religious traditions, sexual preferences, or any other deeply personal approach to life**, then we create a **situation in which some people control others**.
- a person who does not believe in god, for example, **can be harassed by those whom the government has deemed** (regarded as) **morally acceptable**
- the government is **not only intruding on the individual's right to choose for himself**, it is also putting this person in danger.
- establish an environment in which every citizen has a chance to succeed.
- **One way to do this** is to properly manage the income it **receives through taxation** and **to fund institutions such as schools, hospitals, emergency services, and so on**.
- while **feeling secure in their choices based on personal worldviews**, as opposed to **being pushed along a certain path**.
- governments should not tell people how to live other than to make sure that they do not harm others.
- make it possible for every citizen to succeed **regardless of their lifestyle choices**

### Banning Smoking/ Enforcing Helmet Use

- A government has many duties toward its citizens
- enforce rules that ensure the safety and well-being of
- government should be limited in its authority over a person's right to decide what is best for him or herself

- The reason for this is that allowing the government to make **critical decisions regarding people's actions** will **deprive them not only of their individual freedoms**, but also **of their sense of personal responsibility**.
- , a government **must take care of its citizens in a way that does not diminish the power of the individual to decide for himself and to take responsibility for his decisions**.
- Otherwise, a **society faces the danger of its members acting without fear of consequences**.
- Of a government's many duties, the primary one is ensuring the well-being of its citizens.
- give the authorities decision-making powers over others
- should **be limited to national concerns**, not **individuals**. Otherwise, **we risk not only personal freedoms, but also personal responsibilities**.
- By permitting others to decide for us, we forfeit our individuality.
- will eventually dictate even how one should think. Thus, telling a person he cannot smoke, **while well-intentioned, is nevertheless an attack on personal choice**.
- , giving others the power to decide this may devolve into their judging people's morals.
- will lead some members of society to deny responsibility for their actions and blame the government for their misdeeds.
- **a person witnessing a car accident might not help the victims** because he will rely **on his government to do so**.

Media Censorship	
Agree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• prevent hate speech; minimize fake news;</li> <li>• protect children from viewing violence or other harmful material;</li> <li>• remove bias</li> <li>• present a better view of a nation to the outside world</li> </ul>
Disagree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>reduces freedom of speech;</b></li> <li>• less variety of content</li> <li>• <b>gives government too much control, power over people's thoughts;</b></li> <li>• <b>builds mistrust;</b></li> <li>• destroys culture</li> </ul>



Budget Spending	
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• schools; extracurricular programs</li> <li>• subsidies for lower income families;</li> <li>• teacher training; materials; equipment;</li> <li>• facilities (library, athletic,</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hospitals; clinics; trained doctors, nurses,</li> <li>• medical equipment;</li> <li>• disease prevention;</li> <li>• awareness campaigns; outreach (to schools, community centers, etc.</li> </ul>
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• job creation;</li> <li>• foreign investment;</li> <li>• exploitation of natural resources</li> <li>• social welfare</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• roads, bridges, highways</li> <li>• construction; public transit</li> <li>• ; public parks; community centers;</li> <li>• emergency services (fire, ambulance</li> </ul>
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• affordable housing</li> <li>• subsidized housing for low-income families, immigrants; young adults at beginning of careers;</li> </ul>
Sports and art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• subsidize school programs;</li> <li>• theaters, cinemas; stadiums, arenas, pools,</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A government's revenue comes mainly from collecting taxes. As such, citizens are concerned about how this money is spent and what is prioritized</li> </ul>	

## Government's Role in Environment

- In many countries there has been growing demand over the last few years for government action to protect the environment and combat climate change. Governments argue that the costs would be too high and it would hurt the economy, which most people do not want.
- Environmental conservation is costly;
- it requires heavy investment in alternative energy sources and limits on industry,
- to help preserve fragile ecosystems while still generating revenues.
- most people are willing to sacrifice their personal financial security to achieve this.
- In terms of safeguarding the environment, governments have a variety of cost-efficient options.
- Firstly, they could increase taxes on all petroleum-based products such as gas and plastics
- This would, theoretically, discourage the population from consuming these items, thereby reducing their carbon footprint.
- Meanwhile, those who continue to buy these products will in effect be contributing to government revenues
- An alternative option would be to invest in a renewable energy infrastructure, with things such as electric filling stations and solar panel factories
- This would not only create jobs, but would incentivize consumers to spend more wisely.
- In the long run, governments would continue to collect tax revenues and simultaneously protect the environment.
- , any immediate threat to that provision outweighs any long-term considerations.
- to effectively combat climate change, governments will have to look at corporations and other organizations to take a leading role
- Governments can and should act, though they should not rely too greatly on individuals but rather on those sectors of society that can afford to take action.
- their governments should invest more heavily in alternative, renewable, safe energy projects such as wind farms and solar panels.
- Climate change, currently a source of great debate, has many activists calling for increased funding for clean, safe, alternative energy sources, such as wind, solar, and hydroelectric
- nonnuclear options are better as they carry fewer risks.
- we must consider clean energy's ecological impact.
- While greenhouse gases produced by burning fossil fuels are certainly harmful, the potential disaster a nuclear accident poses could be several times greater
- is not only counterproductive, it is also potentially more dangerous.
- radioactive waste, which poses an even greater risk than toxic emissions
- relying more on solar panels, wind turbines, and hydroelectric dams. These producers do not leave waste, have unlimited potential, and can be cost effective if implemented properly.
- depriving the surrounding landscape of its natural beauty.
- one could hardly argue that these drawbacks outweigh the need
- individual's activities may be just a drop in the ocean, but when collected into a wave it can move mountains.
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## Environment

- **Climate change is the big environmental problem that humanity will face over the next decade,** but it isn't the only one.
- We'll take a look at some of them — from water shortages and loss of biodiversity to waste management — and discuss the challenges we have ahead of us
- There is no denying that **depending solely on the dedication of an individual is unrealistic**
- the use of private cars not only exerts excessive burdens on energy preservation, but also causes pollution with the exhaust gas discharged into the air
- rubbish is being dumped by each household every day, **which will undeniably lead to serious pollution problems** if the waste is piling up and cannot be treated in time. Even in public places or tourist sites, pollutants like waste plastic bags, paper, empty cans and boxes can be found everywhere.
- **If no immediate attention is paid** to these unacceptable deeds, **severe consequences may be incurred**
- By **cautiously implementing relevant policies, laws and regulations,** the authorities are obliged to **supervise and pilot the behavior of the public in case unwanted actions are taken**
- the environmental issue **has reached its peak and rose to the worldwide range.** Even if **the person managed to rescue the whole town,** **environmental problem would not be vanished from the globe.**
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- **Global warming due to CO2 is accelerating climate change and threatens the survival of millions of people, plants and animals by causing events like droughts, fires and floods,** which are becoming increasingly frequent and more extreme.
- This means **we need to take measures to mitigate its effects and adapt to its consequences** which will last for centuries.
- Contaminated water also causes major health problems
- The Government should advocate eliminating dumping, minimizing the use of chemicals and treating more wastewater, among other measures.
- The oceans have become the giant waste dumps for plastic. What's more, there are other serious environmental problems related to the oceans such as damage to ecosystems due to global warming, **dumping of pollutants, wastewater and fuel spills.**
- This **situation requires an energy transition towards a cleaner, more accessible and efficient model based on the use of renewable energy sources to build communities that are resistant to environmental problems like climate change**
- **Environmental challenges are complex and interlinked, not only in themselves but also with social and economic issues**
- Addressing these interconnected and interacting environmental and social challenges requires
- Develop explicit plans and **dedicate funding for good quality knowledge management and learning** in

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Recycling and other solutions</b> Companies should make goods that last longer They should not use so much packaging Governments should be stricter, about <b>waster produced by companies</b> <b>They should put legal limits on packaging</b> <b>Consumers should avoid buying over-packaged products</b> We <b>should recycle and reuse useful materials.</b> There are collection banks for glass, paper and plastic bottles <b>Households can use several rubbish bins to separate waste</b> Recycling saves energy and raw materials</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Litter</b></li> <li>• People do not think about the consequences of <b>dropping rubbish</b> They assume that somebody is pad to clean the streest <b>Plastic packaging</b> does not break down easily Most of the litter seen on streets is fast food packaging</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Waste/rubbish</b> The <b>amount of waster we produce has increased</b> This problem is a result of our consumer culture Products are not made to last If something breaks, we throw it away and buy a new one Advertisers encourage is to buy the newest fashions Packaging is an important part of selling Most foods are sold in non-biodegradable plastics packaging <b>The amount of household waste is growing</b> <b>This waste ends up in landfill sites</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Solutions to environment problems</b> Governments could <b>introduce laws to limit emissions from factories</b> They should <b>invest in renewable energy from solar, wind or water power</b> They <b>could impose “green taxes” on drivers and airlines companies</b> Government <b>campaigns should promote recycling</b> Natural areas and wild animals should be protected Individuals should also try to be greener We should take fewer flights abroad for holidays We should <b>take public transport rather than driving</b> We should <b>choose products with less packaging</b> We should <b>recycle as much as possible</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Impacts of humans on the environment</b> The increasing world population <b>is putting pressure on natural resources</b> Fossil fuels like oil and gas are running out We are destroying wildlife habitats We have cut down enormous areas of rainforest This <b>has led to the extinction of many species of animals and plants</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Effects of Global Warming</b> <b>Global warming will have a significant impact on our planet</b> Rising temperature will cause melting of the polar ice caps Sea levels will rise We can expect more extreme weather conditions Flooding and droughts may become more common</li> </ul>

- **Global warming**

Gases such as carbon dioxide trap heat from the sun  
This causes global temperatures to rise  
This process is known as the greenhouse effect  
Human activity is a major factor in the rise of the greenhouse gases  
Factories and vehicles produce emissions and exhaust fumes  
Many developing countries are becoming industrialized  
The number of cars on our streets is growing  
Cheap air travel is allowing more people to fly

- **Water and politics**

The supply of water is also an important political issue  
Huge amount of water are needed for agriculture and industry  
The irrigation of crops accounts for a large proportions of water use  
A water crisis could lead to political conflicts or even wars

- **Importance of clean water**

Water is as necessary natural resource  
Humans need access to clean, safe drinking water in order to live  
Poor water quality is a major cause of disease and death in some countries  
Water usually needs to be treated before we can drink it  
Developing countries often lack the means to treat and supply water to citizens  
Developed countries tend to have much better sanitation  
Citizens have access to clean tap water  
Drinking water is not contaminated by sewage or waste water  
The supply of clean water would improve public health in many developing countries

**Water supply**

Urban life would be impossible without water supply systems  
These systems are massive engineering projects  
Many professionals are involved in their planning, construction and maintenance  
The supply and distribution of water are major concerns  
Water is becoming scarce in some countries  
Areas that suffer droughts often need to import water  
As populations grow, there is more pressure on water supplies  
This could lead to a water crisis

## Government's Role in Economy

- job creation; tax collection; **tax revenue spending on programs and infrastructure**; maintain/build infrastructure (roads, pipelines, railroads, etc.) that **helps everyday citizens but also supports industry and economic growth**;
- healthcare – **build hospitals, training centers**, medical facilities, etc.;
- education – build schools and facilities;
- arts – galleries and museums;
- sports – stadiums, arenas, etc.;
- tourism – hotels, casinos, attractions, etc.;
- all sectors of the economy contribute to its growth, so the government **has a duty to support all sectors with subsidies, tax breaks, direct investment, incentives for foreign investors**, etc.

## International Cooperation

- Many of the world's problems these days **can only be solved with the involvement and cooperation of the international community**.
- **The modern world is full of problems**, be they environmental, security-related, or socioeconomic
- t no country can resolve these issues on its own.
- world's greatest dangers can only be dealt with as a **collaborative effort amongst** all nations.
- there are the problems of climate change and environmental degradation
- the solutions required to **reduce humanity's carbon footprint and preserve its natural resources** and landscapes will involve many nations taking action
- **decides to ban the use of coal, the result would be meaningless** if its neighbors continue to utilize this highly polluting fossil fuel
- **when it comes to tackling greenhouse emissions**, all **nations must work in unison** if this fight has any chance of success.
- To conclude, many of the world's problems belong to everyone, and as such it will take nations and peoples working together to resolve them.

Crime and Punishment		
prison sentence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• loss of freedom is a strong deterrent;</li> <li>• removes criminals from society;</li> <li>• creates jobs (guards, local food manufacturers,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• taxpayers pay to take care of criminals;</li> <li>• criminals do not come out of jail as “good” citizens;</li> <li>• crime inside the prison;</li> <li>• commit crime to get into jail and receive free board, meals, healthcare, etc</li> </ul>
physical punishment, death penalty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strong deterrent for criminals;</li> <li>• gives victims and/or their families some sense of relief;</li> <li>• cheaper than prison</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two wrongs don’t make a right;</li> <li>• some criminals were abused, so being physically harmed might seem normal to them;</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laws are a tool that society creates to <b>maintain safety and harmony among its members.</b></li> <li>• a person who commits a violent crime, such as murder or rape, is <b>not worthy of membership in any civilized community.</b></li> <li>• Many people believe that all <b>violent crimes should be punishable</b> by death</li> <li>• violence seems to be an <b>inherent part of the human condition</b></li> <li>• <b>the psychological comfort the death penalty may offer the families</b> of innocent victims of homicides and other violent acts.</li> <li>• this revenge simply <b>fuels a cycle of violence that ends in more deaths</b> and more anger</li> <li>• In this way, not only would the <b>perpetrator receive his punishment</b>, but those affected by his actions <b>may feel justice has been served.</b></li> </ul>		

Immigration	
Pros	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• larger workforce</li> <li>• willing to take on low-wage jobs</li> <li>• add to cultural diversity</li> <li>• more consumers add to economic growth</li> <li>• refugees can find safety, stability, humanitarian help;</li> </ul>
Cons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• competition for jobs;</li> <li>• xenophobia, may lead to racism, nationalism, populism, violence; security concerns</li> <li>• overcrowded cities, traffic;</li> <li>• rising housing costs (competition for affordable housing</li> <li>• need to focus on own citizens' needs;</li> <li>• can be a financial burden for taxpayers</li> </ul>
Domestic/Foreign Workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• many citizens of Western countries do not take on low-wage jobs, or “demeaning” labor (jobs like garbage collector, dishwasher, etc., which have low status image)—immigrants tend to fill these positions</li> </ul>