

**Source:**

#flo #disorganized #incomplete

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## 1 | Marks?

no it's Marx.

- 1848, communist manifesto time
- led to the soviet union

### 1.1 | Carl Marks

- Father advocated for constitutionalism
- moved around a bunch
- see pg 22 for summary

### 1.2 | The manifesto.

- Joins a secret society for communism
- in the manifesto:
  - Marx and Engels argued that history should not be understood as a story of great individuals or of conflict among states but of social classes and their struggles with each other.
  - ends with
    - “Let the ruling classes tremble at a communist revolution. The proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains. They have a world to win. Proletarians of all countries, unite!”
- Marx was super poor
- Engels:
  - 1.2.1 | **“Philosophers have so far explained the world in various ways: the point, however, is to change it.”**

### 1.3 | the theory

- attempted to create a scientific theory of hist and econ
- about means of production
- those who control the means of production control the society
- religion is
  - is simply a tool of the dominant class to keep the lower classes in their place in this world, with the expectation of a better existence in the hereafter. Religion, in the words of Engels, is the “opiate of the masses.”

- Marx was very deterministic?
- all history is about and driven by class struggles
- All societies begin in the primitive-communal stage, move through a system of slavery (the dominant class being the slave owners), then feudalism, then capitalism, and eventually communism, at which point classes would no longer exist.
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#### 1.4 | **Believed that this was inevitable in every society**

- says that capitalism sows the seeds of its own destruction
  - workers only get paid a fraction of the value they produce
  - thus, they can't afford what they produce
  - leads to accumulation of goods that people cannot buy
  - which leads to periodic crisis
  - and forces entrepreneurs to scale back and lay off workers
  - which leads to increasingly bad economic crises and the "immiseration" of the workers
  - eventually the workers will just revolt —
  - is this true? wouldn't the market just adjust?

#### 1.5 | **the idea? weird flow man**

- when the workers own the means of production, the entire economic substructure will collapse and re-form, as will the superstructure of society.
- Adam Smith talks about private vices creating public virtues
- Marx says that the communist environment will foster people who don't engage in this private vice
- and thus, the communal aspect works
- communism fosters the creation of a "new man", which will build a "new society"
- When social classes disappear, so too will poverty, exploitation, resentment, greed, and crime, so that there will be no need for a police force. Indeed, because government simply perpetuates the supremacy of the dominant class, without social classes there will be no need for government at all. The state, according to Engels, will simply "wither away."
- along with the states will be national boundaries, and then the whole planet will all start hugging each other

#### 1.6 | **the idea, but later**

- product of enlightenment and such
- idea of economic determinism is still largely present today
- bunch of people adopted it
- to see this, see pg 33

## 2 | **Actual manifesto**

- class conflict—the idea that the social order is divided into classes based on conflicting economic interests.
- i dont have time to annotate whooooops