

Exclusion crisis (1679-1681)

- ▶ Stuart dynasty: Charles II's only heir = brother James (Catholic) => some in Parliament wanted an Exclusion Bill to exclude James from succession line (NB: Catholic Kings associated with absolute monarchy (Louis 14th / France etc) => frightened British Parliamentaries)
- ▶ Divided the country and parliament => creation of two parties, in favour of (Whigs) / against (Tories) exclusion (of Catholics from the English throne)
- ▶ After the Exclusion crisis and the Glorious Revolution (James deposed and replaced by Protestant son-in-law William of Orange and daughter Mary), Parliament adopted the Bill of Rights (1689) to make sure the legislative branch had more power than the monarch (= protection against mad or Catholic sovereign)
- ▶ The Act of Settlement 1701 definitively excluded Catholics from the English throne.