

Political Autonomy

1. Objectives
2. Administrivia
3. Political Autonomy

Objectives:

By the end of this lecture you should be able to:

1. State Mill's Harm Principle
2. State an opinion about the Freemen on the Land

July 2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | | | 31 | |

My
Feedback...

Peer Review

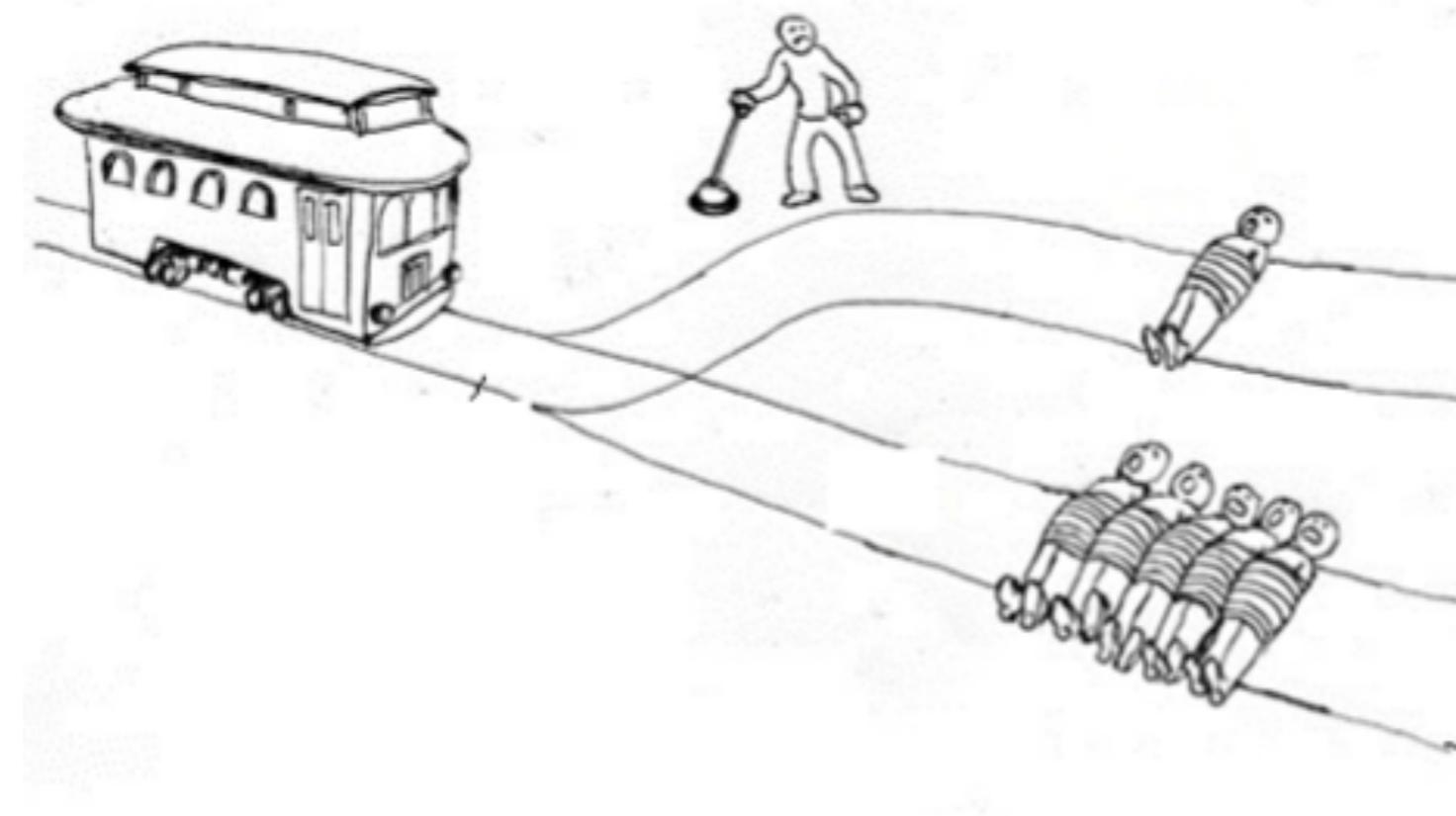
Capstone
Paper Due

Last Lecture

Anything Else? Anyone?



Whose Interests?



Whose Interests?

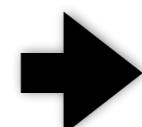
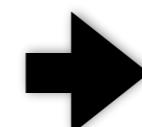
The Economist logo

More from The Economist | My Subscription

Moral philosophy

Goodness has nothing to do with it

That does not make utilitarianism wrong. Crafting legislation—one of the main things that Bentham and Mill wanted to improve—inevitably involves riding roughshod over someone's interests. Utilitarianism provides a plausible framework for deciding who should get trampled. The results obtained by Dr Bartels and Dr Pizarro do, though, raise questions about the type of people who you want making the laws. Psychopathic, Machiavellian misanthropes? Apparently, yes.

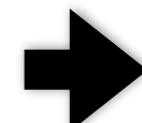


If I prefer
Kisses to Peanut Butter
cups

And if I prefer Peanut
Butter Cups to Jolly
Ranchers

I prefer
Kisses to Jolly
Ranchers





I prefer
Kisses to Peanut Butter
cups

And I prefer Peanut
Butter Cups to Jolly
Ranchers

And I prefer
Jolly Ranchers to
Kisses



Whose Interests?



I need 3 volunteers

Kisses to Peanut Butter
Cups: 2 to 1



Smarties to Kisses:
2 to 1



What is true of the individual Is
not necessarily true of the group

Even though individuals can act rationally...group preferences might not be rational...

In other words it is not always possible to make a decision that everyone can agree with

In other words there will be times
when someone's interests are
trumped

Coercive power of the state



The
Ruler



The
Ruled

Coercive power of the state



The
Ruler

“Their power was regarded as necessary, but also as highly dangerous; as a weapon which they would attempt to use against their subjects...

- J.S. Mill, *On Liberty*, ch. I



The
Ruled

Coercive power of the state



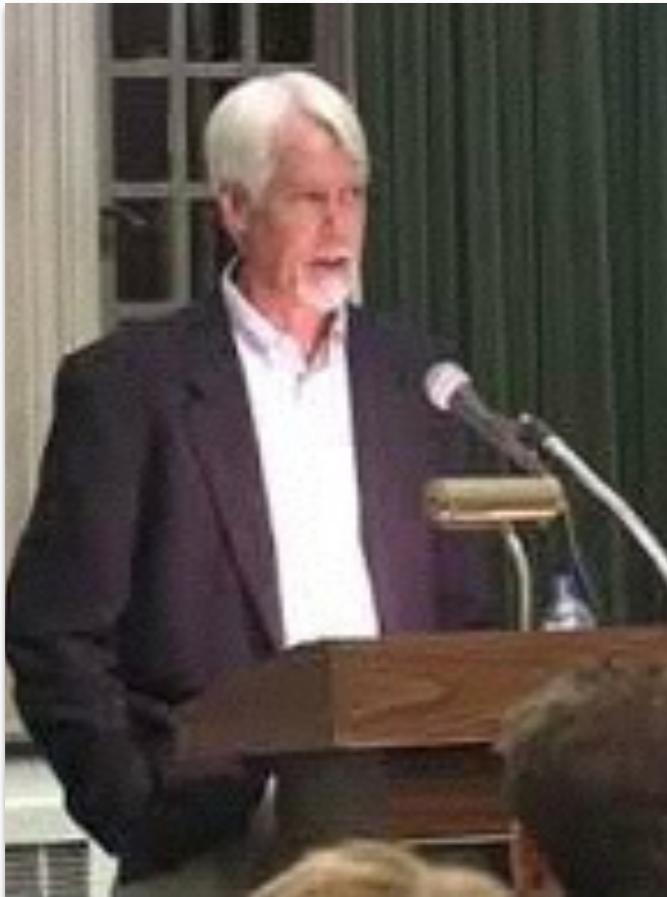
The
Ruler

“The aim...was to set limits to the power which the ruler should be suffered to exercise over the community...

- J.S. Mill, *On Liberty*, ch. I



The
Ruled



A. John Simmons (?)

“

Political power is morally legitimate, and those subject to it are morally obligated to obey, only where the subjects have freely consented to the exercise of such power and only where that power continues to be exercised within the terms of the consent given.

- A. John Simmons, *Justification and Legitimacy*, 745

”

Tyranny of the majority

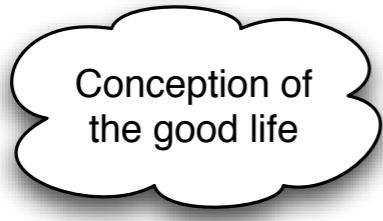
Individual

Freedoms

Resources

Preferences Principles

Beliefs



Values



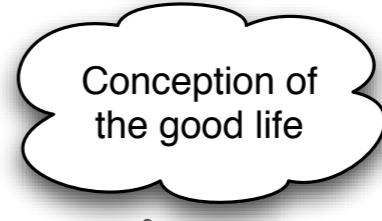
Civil Society

Freedoms

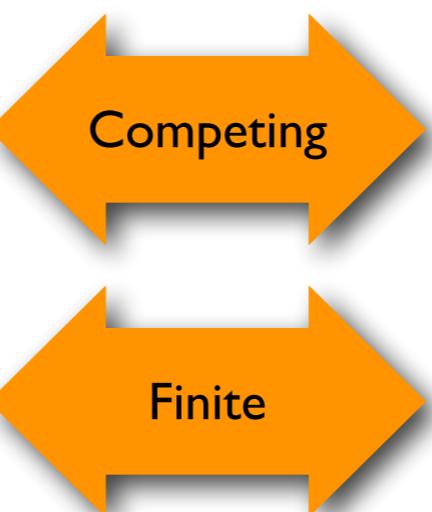
Resources

Preferences Principles

Beliefs



Values



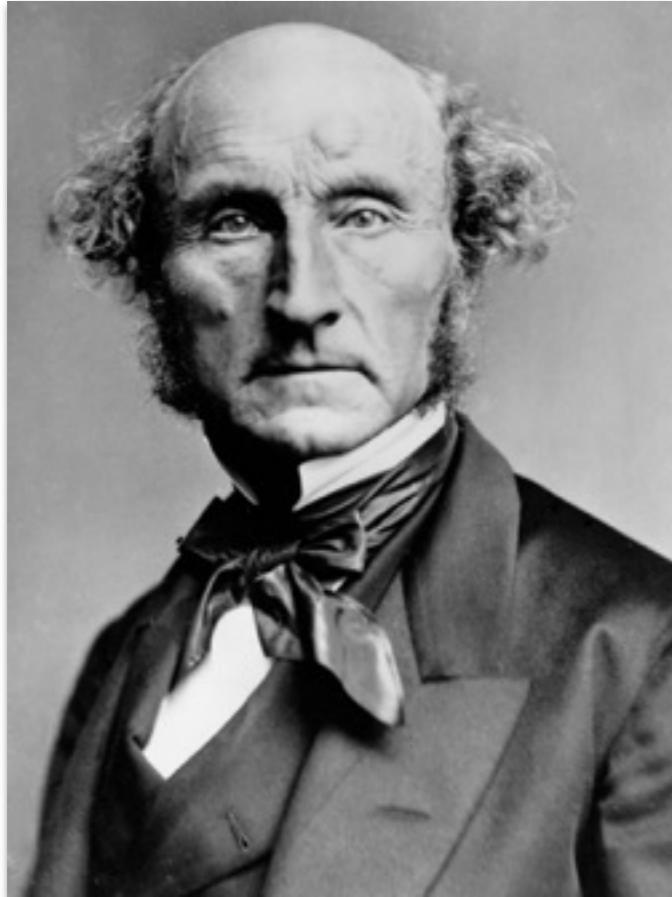
LIBERTY



Individual



Civil Society



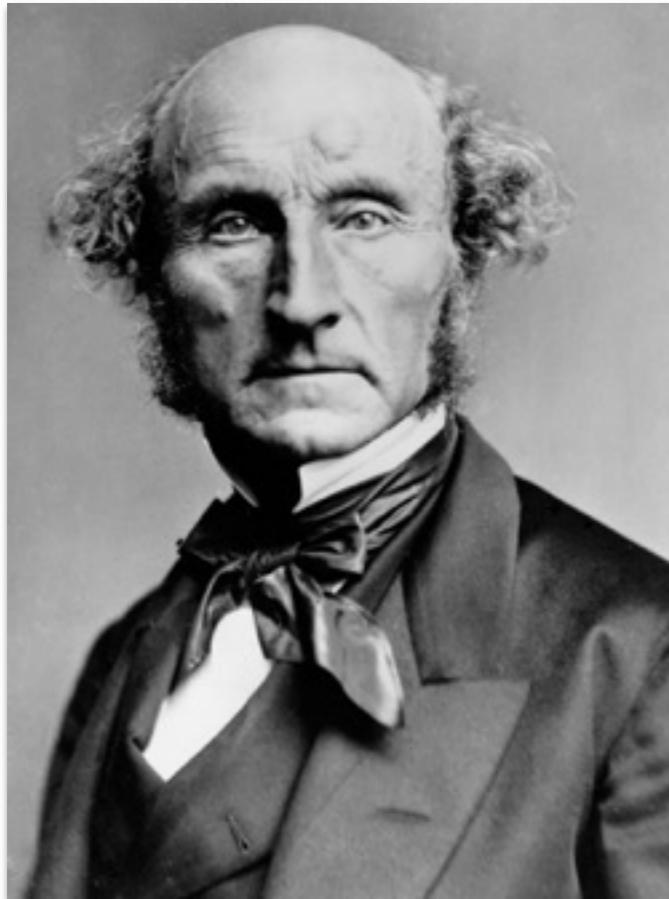
J.S. Mill (1806-1873)

“

The ‘people’ who exercise the power are not always the same people with those over whom it is exercised; and the ‘self-government’ spoken of is not the government of each by himself, but of each by all the rest.

- Mill, *On Liberty*, ch. I

”



J.S. Mill (1806-1873)

“

The will of the people, moreover, practically means the will of the most numerous or the most active part of the people; the majority, or those who succeed in making themselves accepted as the majority...

- Mill, *On Liberty*, ch. I

”

Ontario election turnout hits record low

Democracy Watch urges changes to the system

CBC News Posted: Oct 7, 2011 8:50 AM ET | Last Updated: Oct 7, 2011 6:19 PM ET 638



Voter turnout falls again 1:54

Voter turnout in Thursday's Ontario election was so low it set a new record with only 49.2 per cent of eligible voters going to the polls, which Democracy Watch calls a crisis requiring changes to the system.

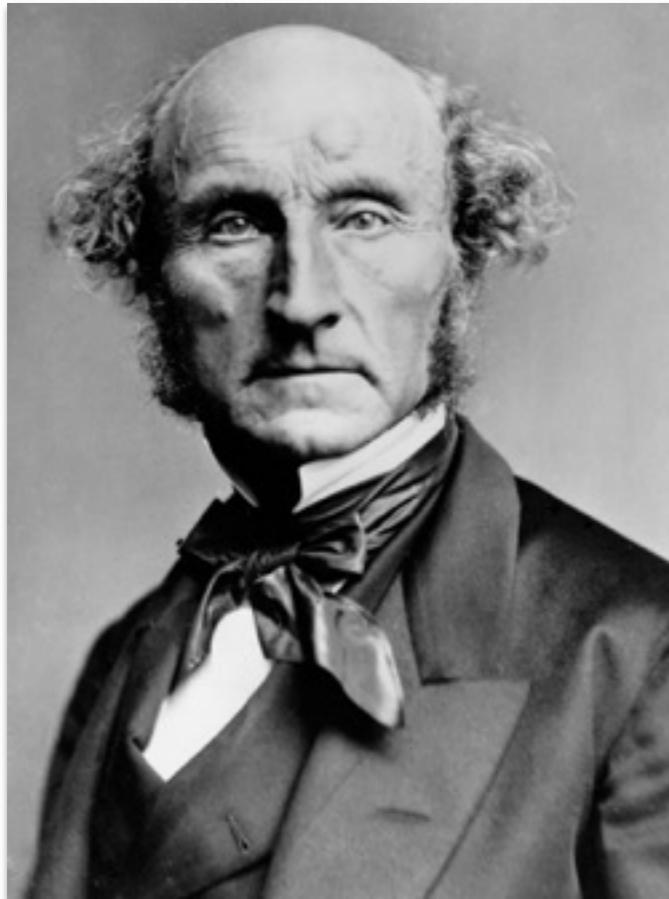
The previous low record was 52.8 per cent, set in 2007.

"Initial results show that the Ontario Liberals have won 53 of 107 seats

Sta
Mobi

CV

Facebook 111
Twitter 0
+1 2
Share 111



J.S. Mill (1806-1873)

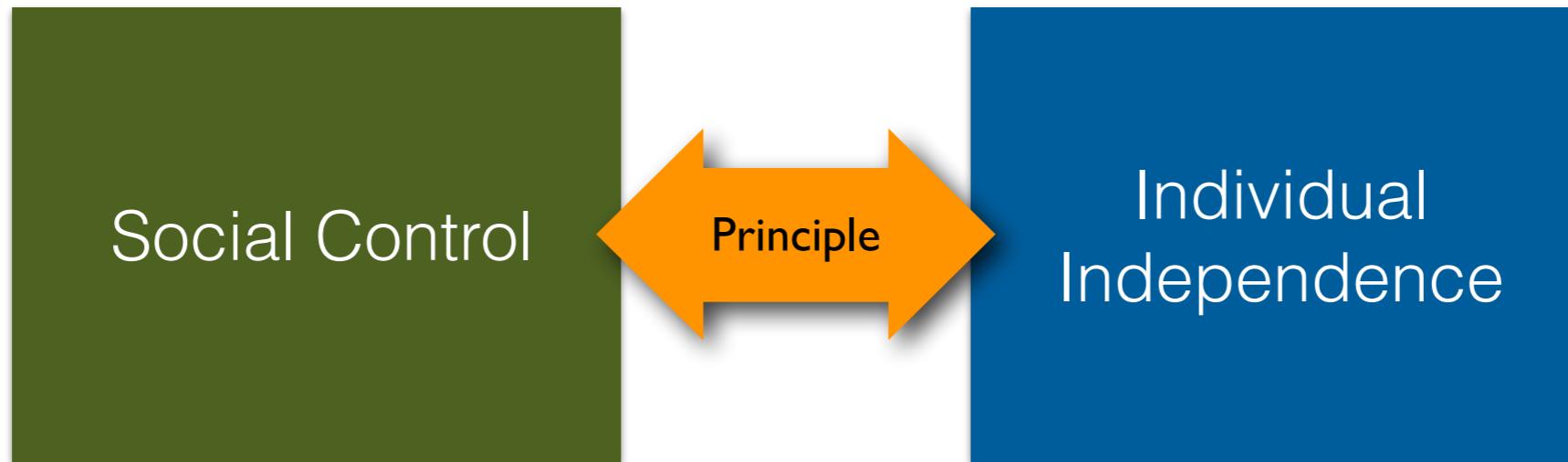
“

...the people, consequently, may desire to oppress a part of their number; and precautions are as much needed against this as against any other abuse of power.

- Mill, *On Liberty*, ch. I

”

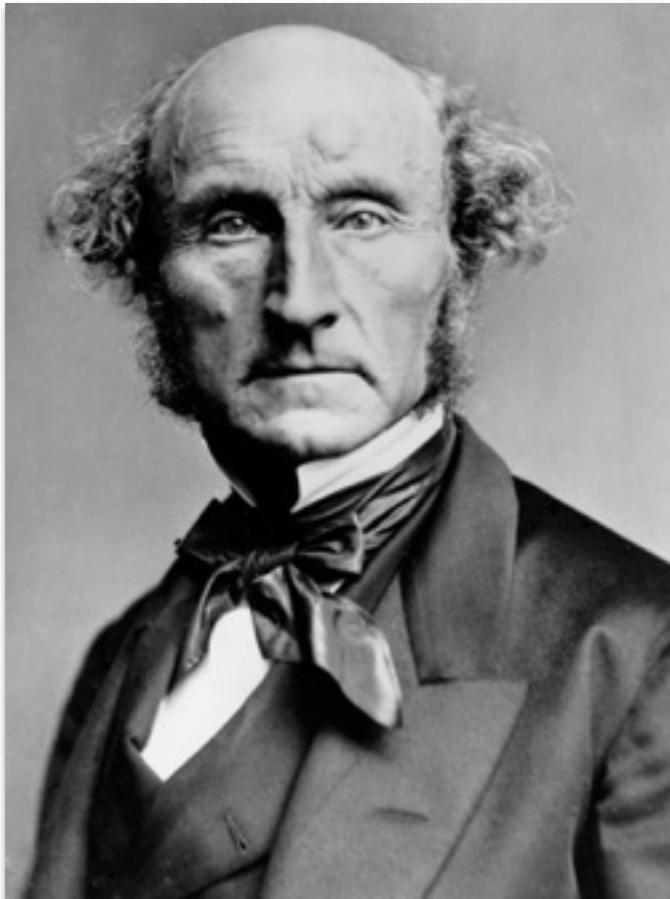
Tyranny of the majority



Whence the Principle?

Social custom!

The problem is, every country,
culture, generation...view their
rules as self-evident and self-
justifying



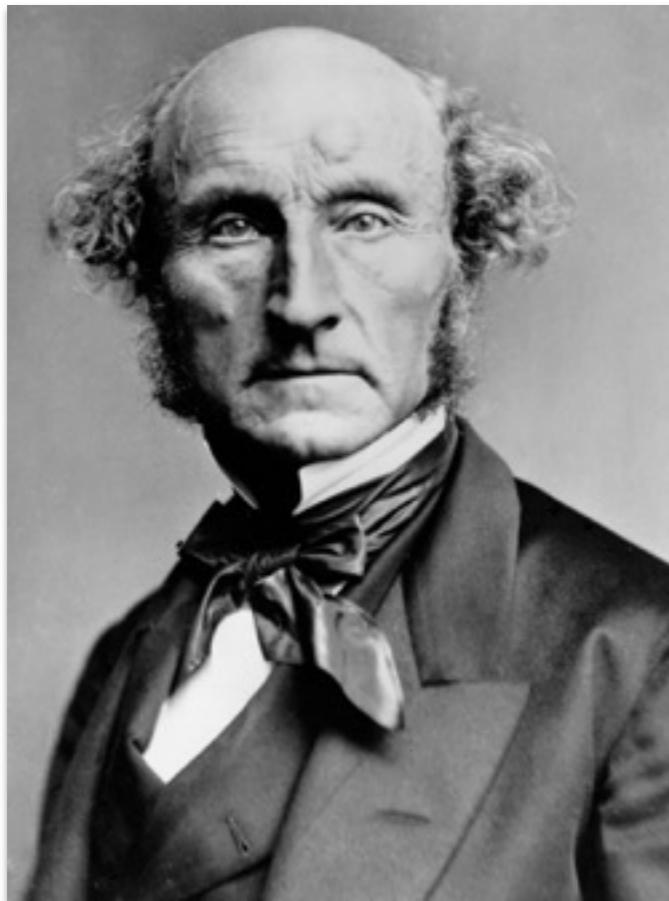
J.S. Mill (1806-1873)

“

No one...acknowledges to himself
that his standard of judgment is his
own liking...

- Mill, *On Liberty*, ch. I

”



J.S. Mill (1806-1873)

“

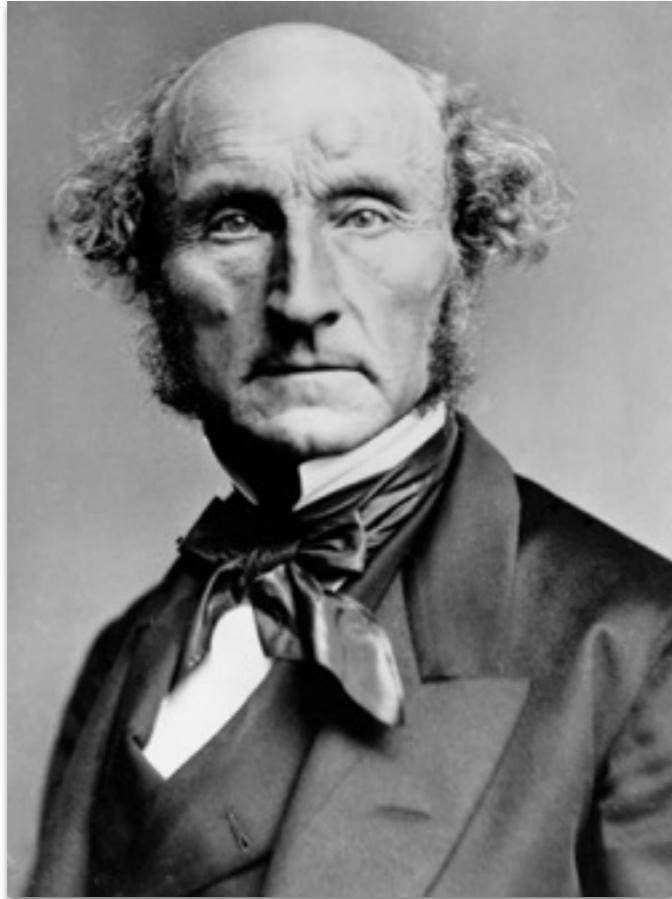
To an ordinary man, however, his own preference, thus supported, is not only a perfectly satisfactory reason, but the only one he generally has for any of his notions of morality, taste, or propriety...

- Mill, *On Liberty*, ch. I

”

“

That the only purpose for which power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilized community, against his will, is to prevent harm to others.



J.S. Mill (1806-1873)

“

His own good, either physical or moral, is not a sufficient warrant. He cannot rightfully be compelled to do or forbear because it will be better for him to do so, because it will make him happier, because, in the opinions of others, to do so would be wise, or even right.

- Mill, *On Liberty*, ch. I

”



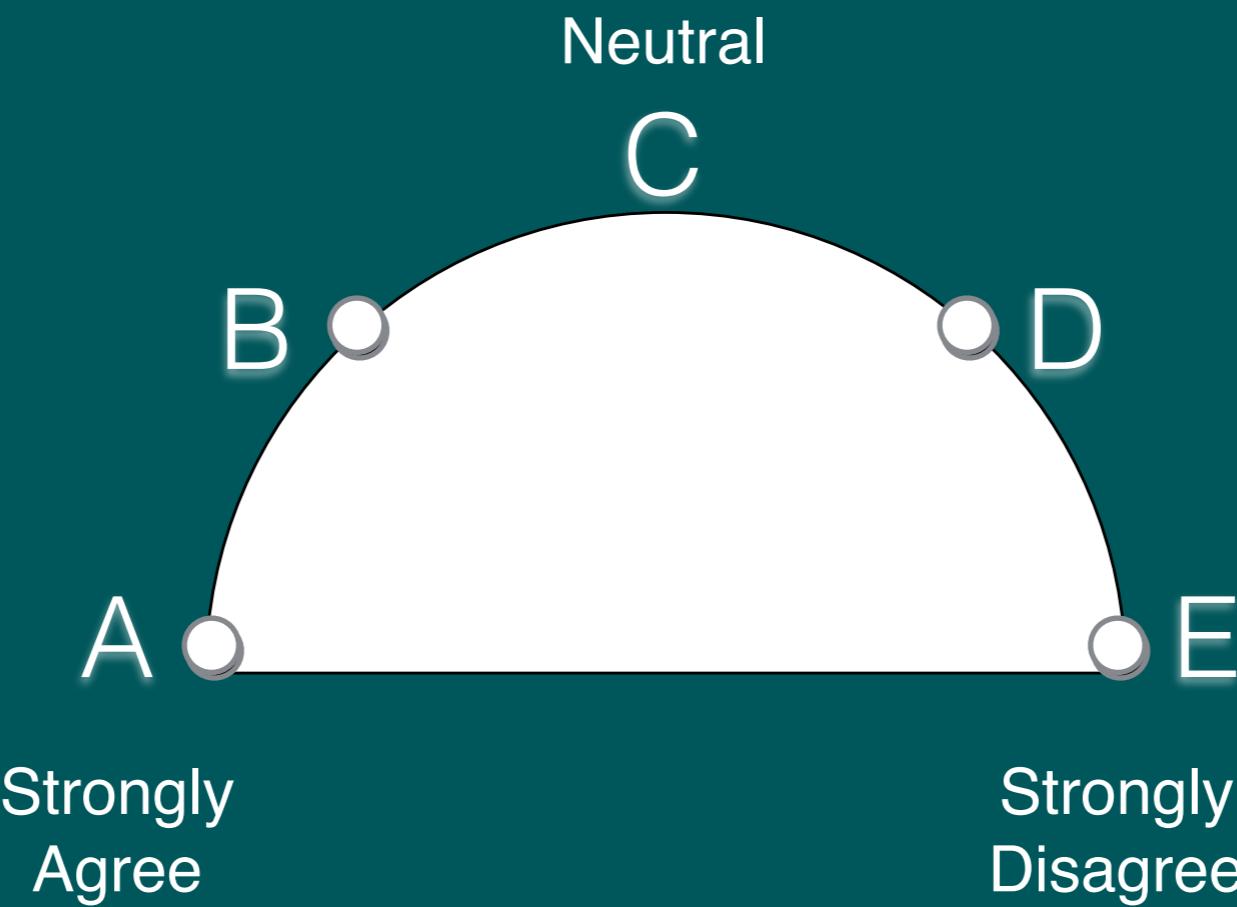
Should we (as a civil society) stop
the Freemen on the Land?



Poll

Question

Should we (as a civil society) stop the Freemen
on the Land?



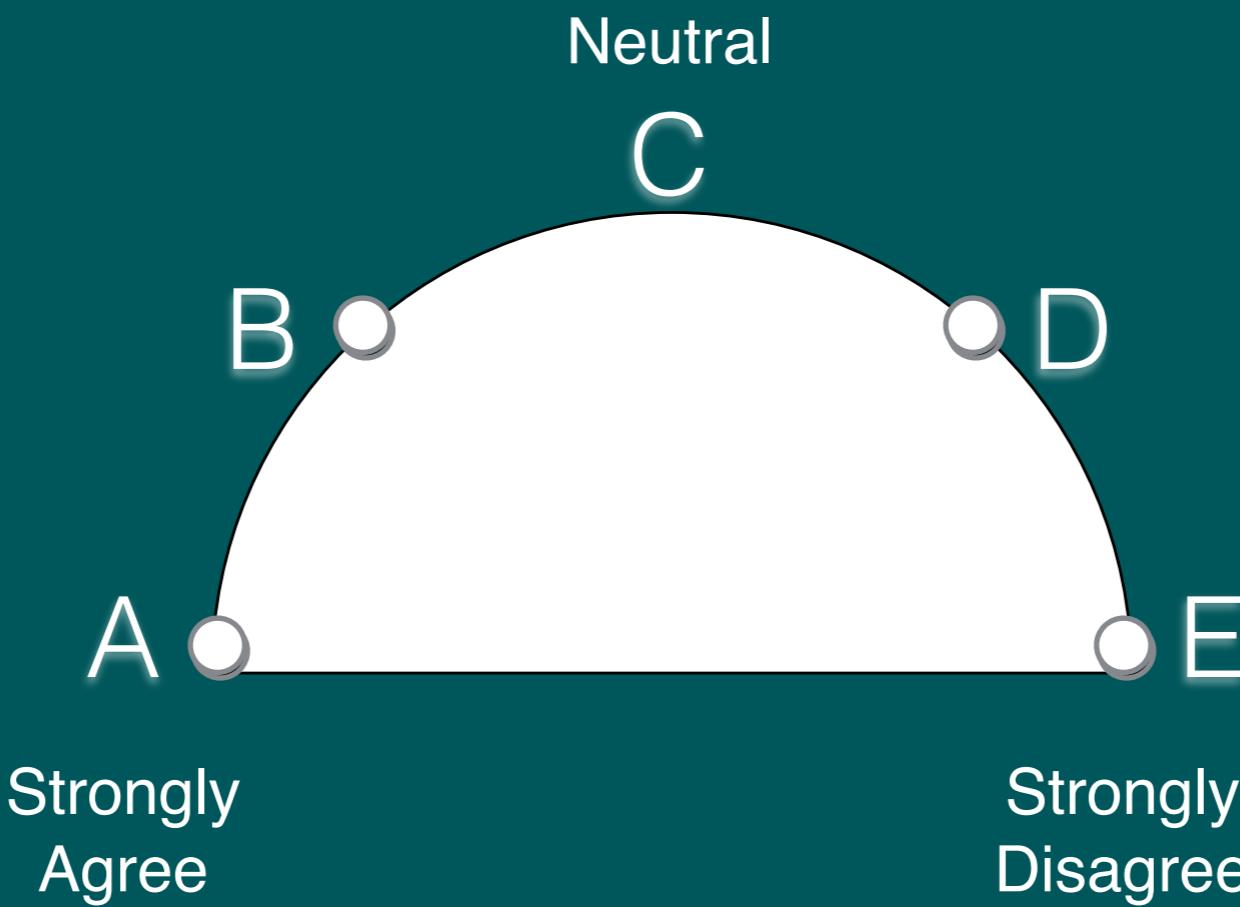
Are the Freemen on the Land
harming anyone?



Poll

Question

Are the Freemen on the Land harming anyone?





Who is interested in
being protected by
national defence?

Who is willing to pay?