

"Material progress undermines true friendship, by replacing it with jealousy, fear & suspicion"

Backlash → Romanticism (human emotion) → Civilization & Culture makes us less happy because we are far from our state of nature

↑  
overdone rationalism  
↑  
Enlightenment

Being civilized ≈ loving your form of slavery!

What is human nature?

Jean Jacques Rousseau

Slavery  
By brute force  
By consent

Discourse on Inequality

Government

By the many → Democracy  
By the few → Aristocracy \*  
By the one → Monarchy

Rule of the best

1) Natural  
2) Hereditary  
3) Elective \*

General Will

1) Democratic  
2) Transcendental

As long as differences in wealth and status among families were minimal, the first coming together in groups was accompanied by a fleeting golden age of human flourishing. The development of agriculture, metallurgy, private property, and the division of labour and resulting dependency on one another, however, led to economic inequality and conflict. As population pressures forced them to associate more and more closely, they underwent a psychological transformation: they began to see themselves through the eyes of others and came to value the good opinion of others as essential to their self-esteem. [11]

The first man who, having fenced in a piece of land, said 'This is mine', and found people naïve enough to believe him, that man was the true founder of civil society. From how many crimes, wars, and murders, from how many horrors and misfortunes might not any one have saved mankind, by pulling up the stakes, or filling up the ditch, and crying to his fellows: Beware of listening to this impostor; you are undone if you once forget that the fruits of the earth belong to us all, and the earth itself to nobody.

Role of Government

T. Hobbes: Maintain stability  
J. Locke: Protect inalienable rights; life, liberty, property  
J.J. Rousseau: Promote the general will of the population