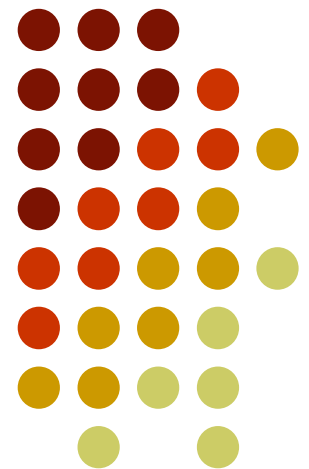


Functions of Government & Types of Government

How does government work for us?

&

How do different governments
work?



What are the Functions of Government?



- The purpose of government is to protect the natural rights of it's citizens.
- So how does government do this? What are it's **FUNCTIONS**?

Functions of Gov't



- Governments offer citizens many benefits:
 1. Keep Order & Provide Security
 2. Provide Public Services
 3. Guide the Community

Keep Order & Provide Security



- Gov't makes laws & enforces laws
 - For example, gov't makes traffic laws and police officers enforce the law by issuing tickets or arresting violators.
 - Community Security – defending citizens and their land from enemies
 - Gov'ts set up armed forces & agencies that watch for threats to our national security, such as Dept. of homeland security.

Provide Public Services



- Gov't creates & manages many national and local services: libraries, schools, hospitals, and parks.
- Gov't develops systems to provide mass transit & supply water to homes and businesses
- Gov't workers build and repair streets, bridges, and deliver the mail

Provide Public Services, **con't**



- Many of the services keep the public healthy & safe: fire dept, and EMS.
- States license drivers & doctors
- Other Gov't agencies protect us from dangerous drugs or spoiled food (FDA)
- Gov't inspectors check for safety probs in factories, day care centers and amusement parks

Provide Public Services, **con't**



- Gov't also provide help to needy people: poor families and people out of work can receive food aid or cash (Food Stamps and Unemployment Benefits)
- Gov't also supply affordable housing, healthcare, jobs training, and special programs for people with disabilities.

Guide the Community



- Formulate Public Policy – laws or developed guidelines that help reach community goals, especially creating budgets.
- Gov't also arrange for international trade, travel, military agreements.

How do different types of gov'ts work?



- Our gov't is divided into 3 main levels:
 1. **National** - the president, congress and supreme court. Handle law that deals with the entire nation
 2. **State** - governor, state representatives. Maintain laws of the state such as education
 3. **Local** - Can be in many forms, deals with laws that pertain only to your community. Speed limits, Wet vs. Dry, etc.

How do different types of Gov'ts work?



- Totalitarian Dictatorship - government that is controlled by a single person. (this can include monarchy)
- This is the Earliest and most common type of government in history
- Examples: Hitler, Castro, Me

How do different types of Gov'ts work?



- Monarchy – king, queen, or emperor exercises the supreme powers of gov't . (usually and inherited position)
 - Absolute Monarchy – complete and unlimited power (very rare today)
 - Constitutional Monarchy – share gov't powers with elected lawmakers; monarchs are ceremonial leaders.

How do different types of Gov'ts work?



- There are 2 types of Democracy: In a democracy the citizens hold the power to rule and make laws.
 - 1. direct democracy-** every citizen vote on every issue. This is a good way to let all sides be heard but takes too long.
 - 2. representative democracy-** citizens choose representative who represent their wishes in government.



Civics – What is it?



- Civics is the study of the rights & duties of citizens; how citizens interact with their gov't.
- Civic Virtue - The qualities all citizens need to have for democratic governments to work.