## NATURAL RIGHTS

## CLASSICAL REPUBLICANISM

- 1. Stressed the rights of the individual; to include, life, liberty, property
- Stressed that human nature is such that individual behavior is motivated by self-interest
- Stressed that society is a collection of individuals, each sharing the same right to persue his or her own welfare
  - Stressed that people's opportunities should not be limited by the situation or group into which they are born
- Stressed promoting the common good above the rights of the individual
- Stressed that individuals should be motivated by civic virtue
- Limited individual rights to privacy, belief, and expression. Prohibited rights to read, think and earn money. If people had freedom to do such things, they might stop being reliable and fully dedicated to the common good
- 4. Discouraged diversity of beliefs, and wealth and ways of life. Stressed small communities where people know each other. Discouraged citizens from traveling, earning money and reading and thinking about things that had nothing to do with their government.

## NATURAL RIGHTS

- Stressed that the main purpose of government should be to protect natural rights. The state existed to serve the interests of the individual
- o. To preserve natural rights, governments guarantee specific rights, such as civil rights (religion, privacy) and political rights (vote, run for office)

## CLASSICAL REPUBLICANISM

- Stressed avoiding the formation of factions or interest groups that might endanger the common good. Stressed that citizens should participate fully in the government to promote the common good
- Stressed the importance of political rights such as voting, expressing ideas and opinions about government, and serving in public office.