

Radical

Moderate

Conservative

up to 1789
OLD REGIME

King tries to go against traditional
privileges of nobles;
nobles try to limit power of king

Nobles force king to call ESTATES GENERAL
- want a Constitutional Monarchy
- guarantees of personal liberty
- freedom of speech and press
- want main role in running France

3rd Estate refuses to join Estates General
declares itself the NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (6-17-89)
TENNIS COURT OATH (6-20-89)

assumption of virtual sovereign power even though
they had no legal authority

lower classes- all hell breaking loose (summer 1789)
labor riots
rural peasants refuse to pay taxes, dues, or to work

STORMING OF THE BASTILLE (7-14-89)
THE GREAT FEAR (summer 1789) people go nuts

National Assembly makes some reforms:
AUGUST DECREES (8-4-89)
DECLARATION OF RIGHTS OF MAN (8-26-89)

March to Versailles (10-4-89)

no real changes for women

forced back to Paris to accept status as
Constitutional Monarch
women cant vote or hold office
distinction between active and passive citizens (358)
not direct democracy- vote for electors

Even More Radical

More Radical

Radical

formation of radical clubs
JACOBINS

National Assembly becomes the
CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY
rule nation 10-89 to 9-91
1. written Constitution
2. destroy Old Regime
3. unicameral legislative body
4. King can only postpone laws

some people begin to "freak out"
fear of a counter-revolution

King captured after attempt to flee (Varenes)
*King refused to accept his status
as a constitutional monarch*

**CIVIL CONSTITUTION OF
THE CLERGY 1790**

Constituent Assembly disbands
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
(Oct. 1791)

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France at war (April 1792) against Austria, Prussia
and a not so united coalition - why?
Declaration of Pillnitz (Leopold)

GIRONDINS use the war as a way to gain political advantage:
they become the party of international revolution

war intensifies existing unrest and dissatisfaction of the unpropertied classes
the legislative Assembly was too conservative- the lower classes were moving in
a more revolutionary direction than the revolutionary government

Brunswick Manifesto (July 25, 1792)

JACOBINS rise to the fore: Robespierre, Marat, Danton- use: bad
situation in war to agitate in Paris for increased leadership of revolution

STORMING OF THE TUILERIES- King and Queen seized (Aug. 10, 1792)

Revolutionary government set up in Paris
COMMUNE

- 1. takes power away from Legislative Assembly
- 2. forces nullification of 1791 Constitution
- 3. forces election of a new, more democratic Constitutional Convention

All Hell Breaking Loose in Paris
SEPTEMBER MASSACRES

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The Most Radical Yet AgainThe Most Radical YetWow. Even More Radical

the new NATIONAL CONVENTION
(COMMUNE) (Sept. 20, 1792)
 changes calendar
 wins great victories
 spreads revolutionary ideals

National Convention begins to split
MOUNTAIN (dominated by Jacobins) versus Girondins

SANS-CULOTTES support Mountain (workers and shopkeepers in Paris)

1. demands for real equality
2. supports war against other Old Regime nations
3. denounces King for collusion with Austria
4. fears that the National Convention was too moderate
5. favor direct democracy and mass uprising, if necessary, against Convention

King put on trial (Dec. 1792) unanimously guilty (Jan. 15, 1793)
 vote for immediate execution (Jan. 16, 1793) 361 to 360
 Jacobins vote in favor of execution Girondins vote against

Mountain now seen as the hope for all those who want more from the Revolution and those who fear any type of counterrevolutionary activity

All Hell Breaking Loose in Paris- cries of betrayal: Sans-culottes becoming more active

1. prices rise, currency falls, food shortages, increasing restlessness
2. demands for price controls, beginning to denounce bourgeoisie

Mountain supports Sans-culottes

1. sympathetic to their ideas
2. wants their support for the war
3. wants an excuse to turn against Girondins

Paris Commune- under pressure from Sans-culottes, organizes demonstration in Paris, mob forms, storms Convention and arrests Girondin leaders (May 31, 1793)

Mountain now controls the Convention (Robespierre, Marat, Danton) but overall, things are beginning to slip away from the control of the Convention

1. foreign armies poised to attack
2. people had already come to question and distrust the Convention
3. peasant revolts in areas outside Paris
4. uprisings in other cities against the Revolution
5. some are even more radical than the Mountain - HEBERTISTS, enrages

This is Ridiculous: More Radical

Can You Believe It? Even More Radical

National Convention initiates the
REIGN OF TERROR- purposes:

1. repress anarchy
2. crush counterrevolution
3. win the war
4. national mobilization

Creation of Committees

COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC SAFETY

COMMITTEE OF GENERAL SECURITY

dominated by Robespierre and Jacobins

Terror as the official government program

Role of Committee of Public Safety

1. prepared and pushed through all legislation
2. controlled army
3. centralized government administration
4. levee en masse- total war mobilization
5. economic controls

Committee wants to bring some control to Revolution- no patience with "unauthorized" violence, political clubs, or women's organizations, actually arrested some of the enrages

Religious Policies not as radical as the Dechristianization program

March 1794- Committee targets Hebertists- destroys Paris Commune

Working class leaders in Paris and ultra-revolutionaries not satisfied- Revolution appears to be more and more just a bourgeoisie sham:

this forces Robespierre to go after the more "conservative" members of the Mountain, namely, DANTON

by Spring of 1794- French Army the most powerful in European history causes major disruption to Balance of Power (800,000 men)- Nationalism

yet- France losing patience with Robespierre and the Committees

Robespierre "censored" by the Convention on July 27, 1794
arrested and executed on July 28, 1794- sans-culottes do nothing to save him:

1. for many, the revolution and gone too far; was too radical
2. for others, the revolution had not gone far enough; was not radical enough

THERMIDORIAN REACTION: following death of Robespierre

- terror subsided
- Convention reduced the powers of the Committees
- Jacobin club closed down
- price controls and other restrictions removed
- inflation and prices rose
- working classes worse off than ever before
- some sporadic uprisings, but not much

Overall, the Revolution was beneficial to the Bourgeoisie class
 Their position in France was secure after the revolution as it was before
 The "Thermidorians"

1. disliked pure democracy and "mob" rule
2. looked to protect their political, social, and economic position
3. still believed in individual rights
4. still believed in the idea of a written Constitution
5. new Constitution written in 1795