

Background on English political history

- 1588 Hobbes born.
- 1603 Elizabeth I dies, James VI of Scotland becomes king of England, James I of England. James is the first of four Stuart kings.
- 1625 James I dies; Charles I becomes king.
- 1632 Locke born. Filmer's *Patriarcha* written in the 1630s but not published.
- 1633 Galileo forced to recant his support of the Copernican system.
- 1640 Charles I dissolves Parliament in a dispute over his power to raise taxes. Hobbes starts writing about political philosophy, goes to Paris.
- 1642 Civil war begins.
- 1646 Royalists lose. Charles I taken captive. Long series of negotiations between Charles I and Parliament. Charles attempts to recruit allies to restart the war.
- 1648 Scots invade England, royalist uprisings. Both defeated by Parliamentary armies.
- 1649 Charles I tried and executed. Monarchy and House of Lords abolished, Republic declared.
- 1651 Another royalist invasion from Scotland fails. Then Hobbes publishes *Leviathan* and goes back to England.
- 1653 Cromwell dissolves Parliament, Protectorate declared.
- 1658 Cromwell dies, is succeeded by his son. It doesn't last.
- 1660 The Restoration (of the Stuarts). Another invasion from Scotland (this time by a Parliamentary army) restores the Parliament from 1653 and it offers Charles II the throne.
- 1675 Locke's chief backer falls out of favor with Charles II; Locke goes to France.
- 1679 Hobbes dies. Locke returns to England. Terms "Whig" and "Tory" introduced in debates over whether to exclude James II from the throne. "Whig" (a Scots Gaelic term applied to horse thieves) was applied to those who thought Parliament could exclude James from the throne. "Tory" (an Irish term suggesting a Papist outlaw) was applied to those who supported James's hereditary right to rule. Locke would have been a Whig.
- 1680 Filmer's *Patriarcha* published.

- 1683 The University of Oxford condemns and burns *Leviathan*. Locke in danger again; goes to Holland.
- 1685 Charles II dies; James II becomes king. He is widely suspected of wanting to restore Catholicism as the state religion.
- 1688-89 Glorious Revolution: Parliament deposes James II, William and Mary installed.
- 1690 Locke's *Two Treatises of Government* published.
- 1704 Locke dies.
- 1711 Hume born.
- 1742 Hume's "Of the Original Contract" published.