Absolutism



New Ideas

- 1. New ideas about science and government
- 2. Conflict of traditional vs. Enlightened politics
- 3. Some countries change, others stay the same



Stay Traditional

- 1. Use absolutism, king rules for himself
- 2. Absolutism = total power for the king
- 3. Absolutists centralize power
- 4. Absolutists rule by divine right
- 5. Divine right = claim God tells you to rule

In France

- 1. Louis XIV (14) call himself Sun King
- 2. Revokes Edict of Nantes
- 3. Sign of religious intolerance
- 4. Builds Palace of Versailles as a symbol of power

In Russia

- Peter I (Peter the Great)
- 2. Westernizes (modernizes) Russia

In Prussia

- Frederick the Great
- 2. Militarizes Prussia—"Spartan of the North"

Make Some Changes

Other countries make small changes

In England

- 1. Constitutional monarchy
- 2. King must follow laws
- 3. Limited by Magna Carta
- 4. Right to jury trial
- 5. Common law applies to everyone

Make Big Changes

In US

- Democracy
- 2. Rule by the people
- 3. Social contract (Rousseau)
- 4. Natural rights (Locke)
- 5. Separation of powers (M)
- 6. Capitalism (Smith)
- 7. Religious freedom (V)

