

Forms of Government

Comparing Different Forms of Government

Benchmarks

SS.7.C.3.1

Compare different forms of government (direct democracy, representative democracy, socialism, communism, monarchy, oligarchy, autocracy).

What is the role/purpose of government?

- To protect the rights of the people
- To keep the people safe
- Life, liberty and pursuit of happiness
- What else...?

Forms of Government

- Direct democracy
- Representative democracy
- Constitutional monarchy
- Absolute monarchy
- Oligarchy
- Autocracy
- Republic
- Socialism
- Communism

**These are the
forms of
government we
will be
examining
today!**

As these governments are being discussed...

- Draw a diagram of the government we are discussing.
- Think about the definition and illustrate the definition in a way that makes sense to you.

What is a “democracy”?

- **Democracy** is government by the people, exercised either directly or through elected representatives.
 - Literally defined as “rule of the people”

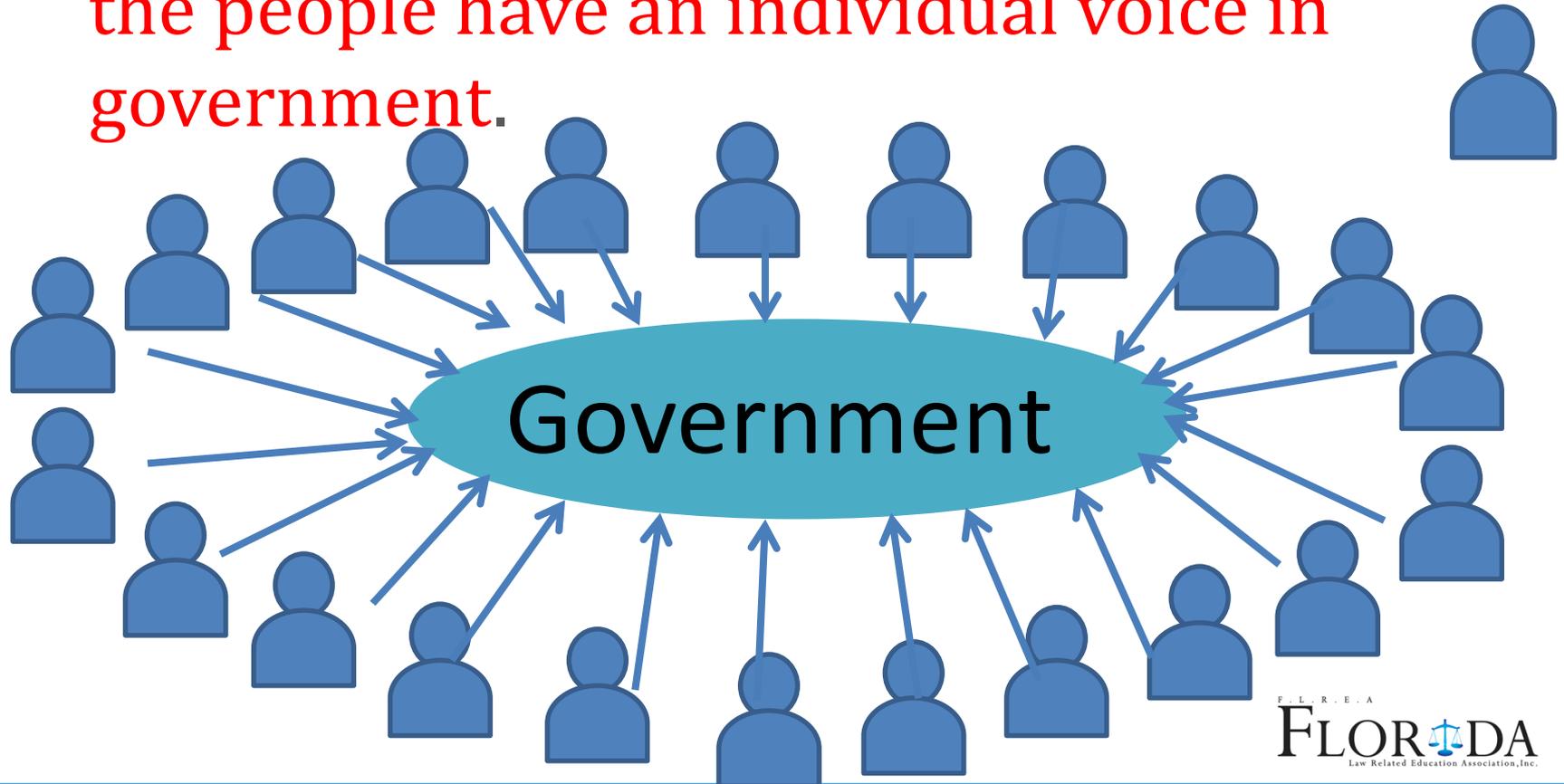
Direct Democracy

- **Direct Democracy**

- Based on the definition of “democracy” how would you define a direct democracy?
- Draw a picture to illustrate your definition of direct democracy!

What is direct democracy?

- **Direct democracy** is a government where the people have an individual voice in government.



Representative Democracy

- **Representative Democracy**

- What is a “representative”?

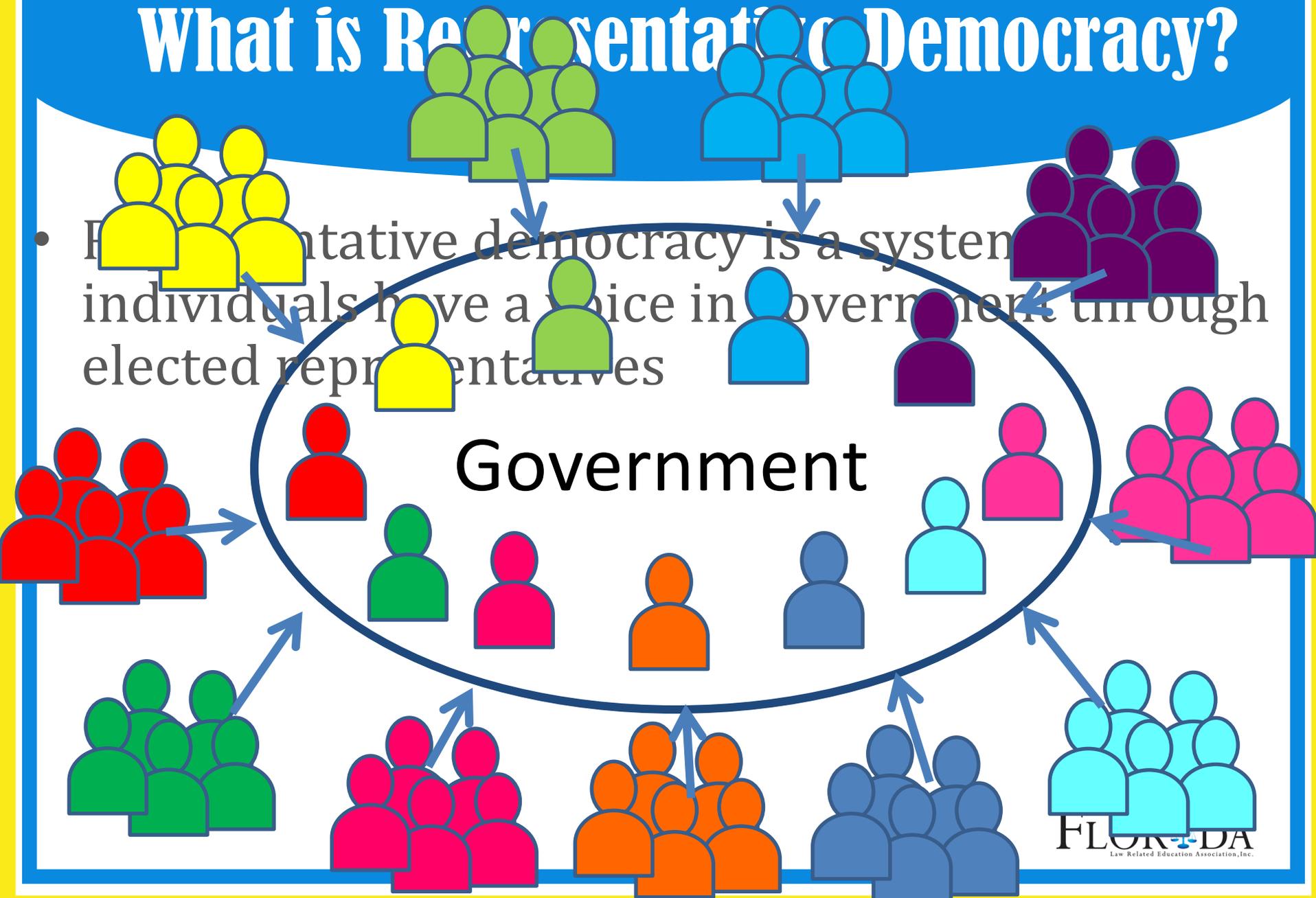
- An elected person to act and speak on behalf of others in a democracy

- Based on the definition of “representative” and “democracy”, how you would define representative democracy?

- Draw a picture to illustrate your definition of representative democracy!

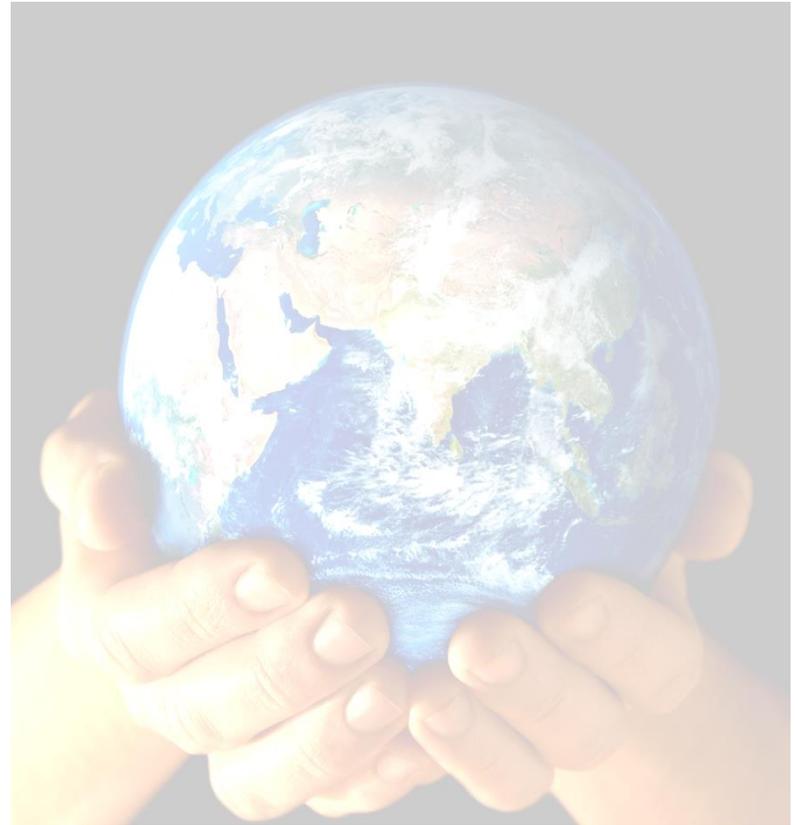
What is Representative Democracy?

- Representative democracy is a system in which individuals have a voice in government through elected representatives



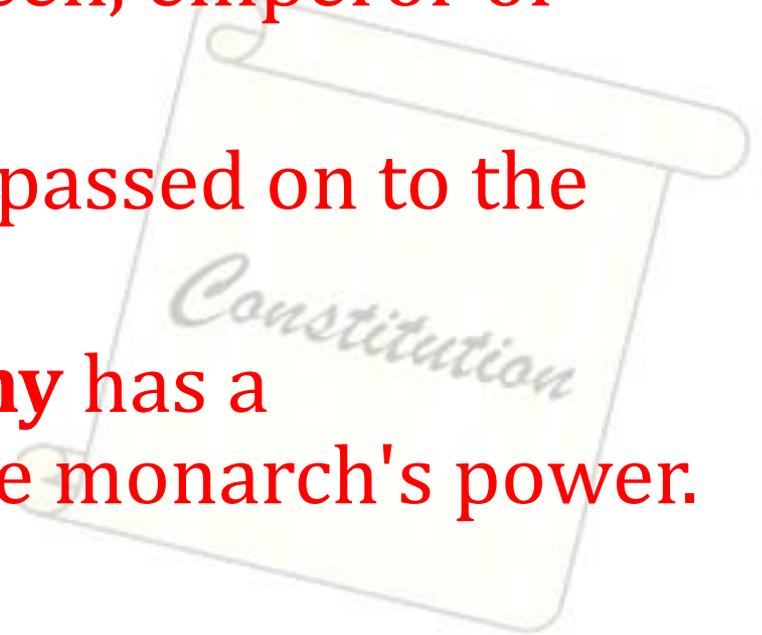
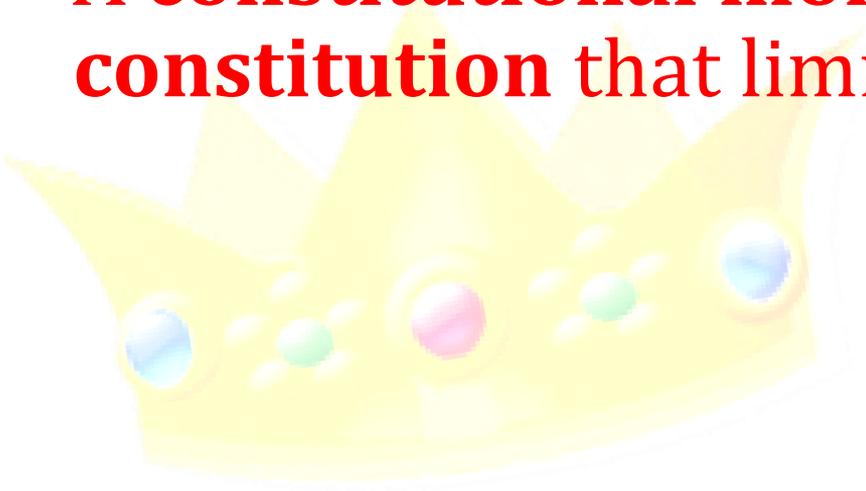
What other forms of government are there?

- Monarchy
 - Constitutional monarchy
 - Absolute monarchy
- Oligarchy
- Autocracy
- Socialism
- Communism



Constitutional Monarchy

- A monarchy has a king, queen, emperor or empress.
- The ruling position can be passed on to the ruler's heirs (family).
- A **constitutional monarchy** has a **constitution** that limits the monarch's power.



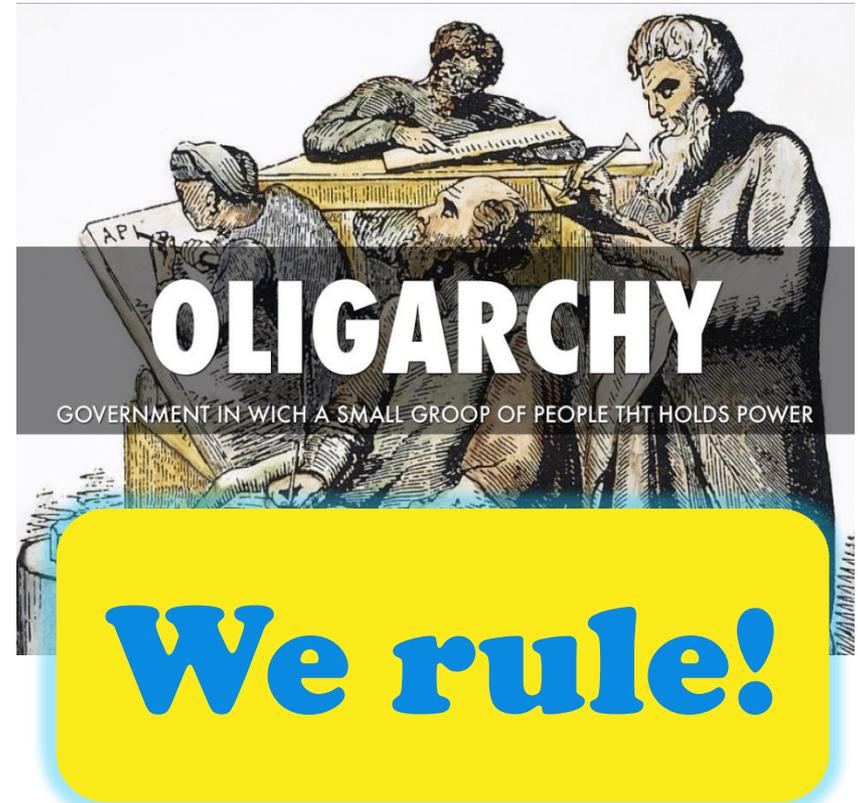
Absolute Monarchy

- The monarch (king, queen, etc.) has **absolute** power among his/her people.
- The monarch is the **single ruler** within the government – **rule by one**.
- The monarch has **unrestricted power** over the people.



Oligarchy

- A government in which control is exercised by a **small group of individuals** whose authority is generally based on wealth and/or power.
- Rule by a “few”



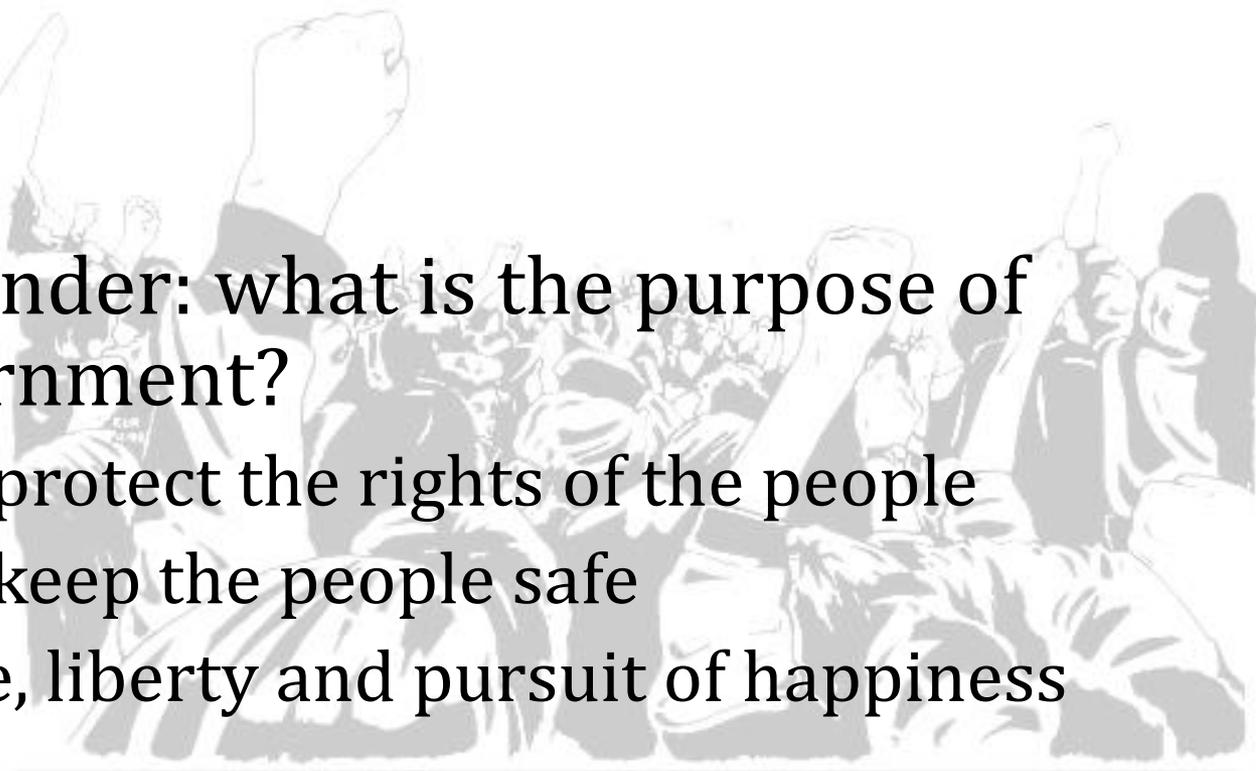
Autocracy

- A government ruled by a **single leader** who has unlimited power and denies peoples' fundamental rights.
- **Rule by one**

I rule!

Anarchy

- A society where there is no government
- Reminder: what is the purpose of government?
 - To protect the rights of the people
 - To keep the people safe
 - Life, liberty and pursuit of happiness

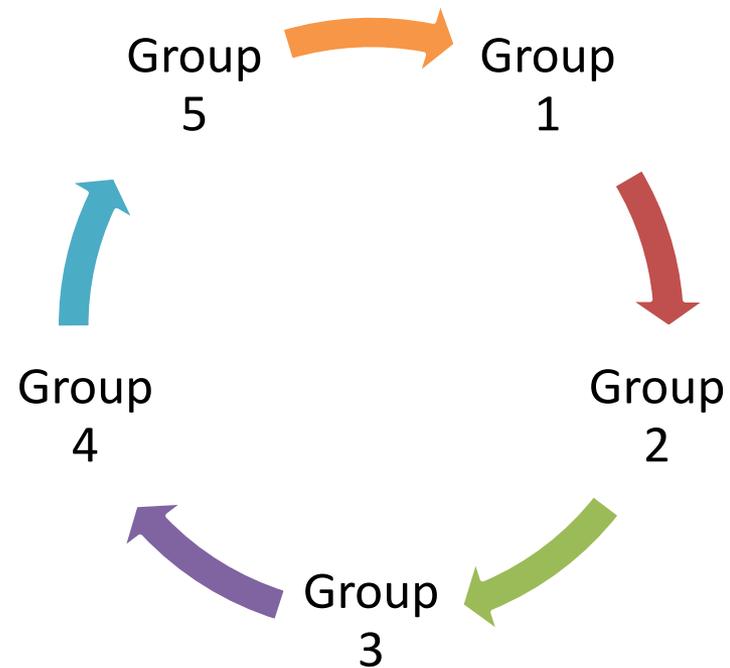


In your group...

- Compare your individual illustrations of different kinds of government.
- Using the large chart paper, create a diagram for your assigned form of government as a group. Be sure to talk through the definitions and incorporate everyone's ideas.
- **DO NOT** write the name of the government on the chart paper.
- Once finished, post your diagram on the wall.

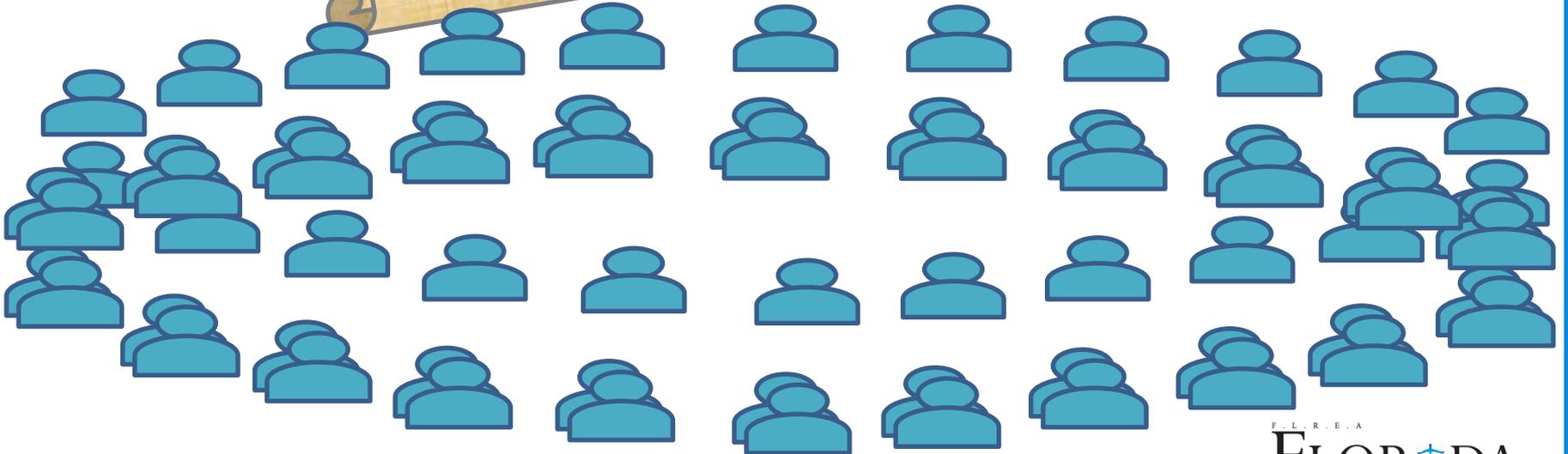
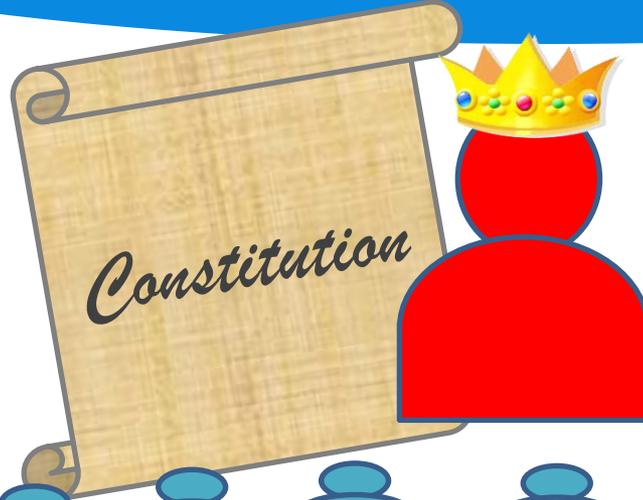
Which government is that?

- Once you have posted your government diagram:
 - Rotating clockwise, go to the posters posted by the other groups and write which government they were illustrating on your handout. Work as a group to make your guess.

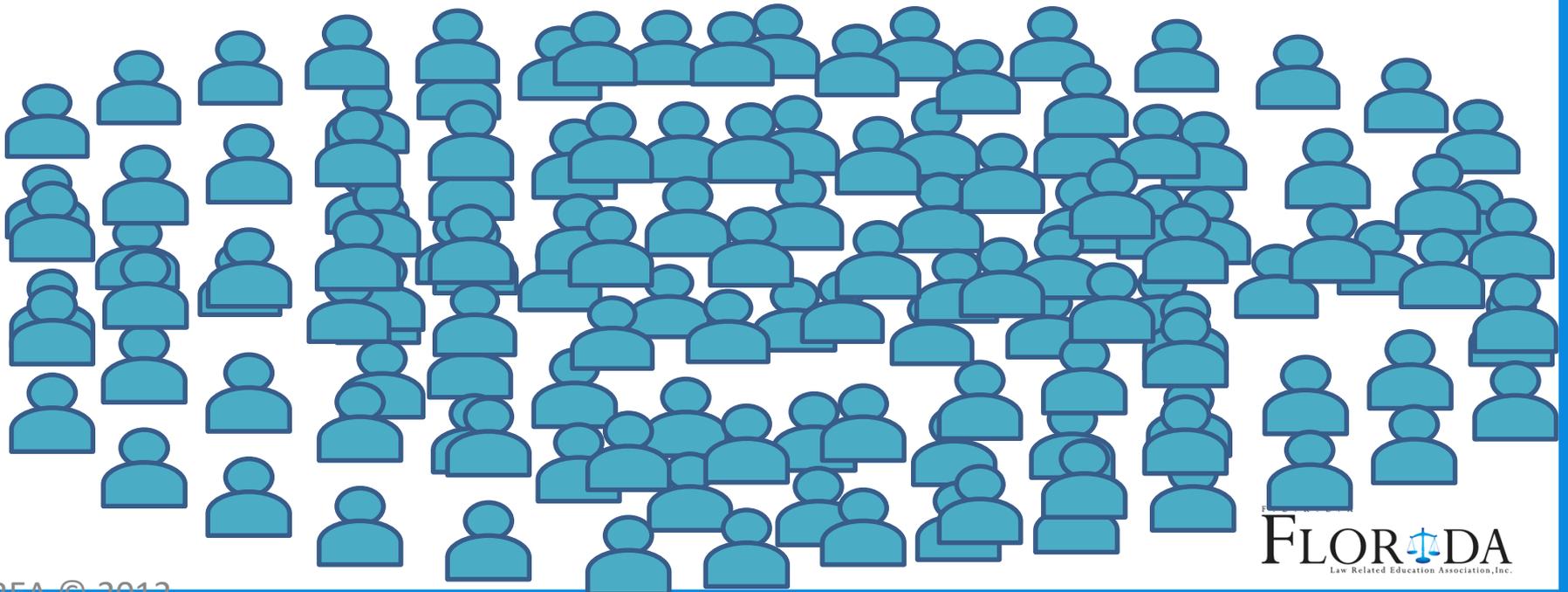
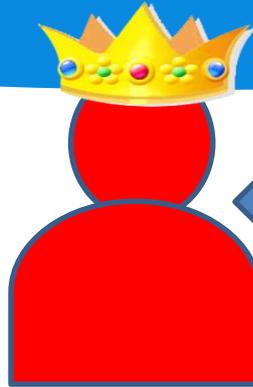


**WHAT DO THESE
GOVERNMENTS LOOK LIKE?**

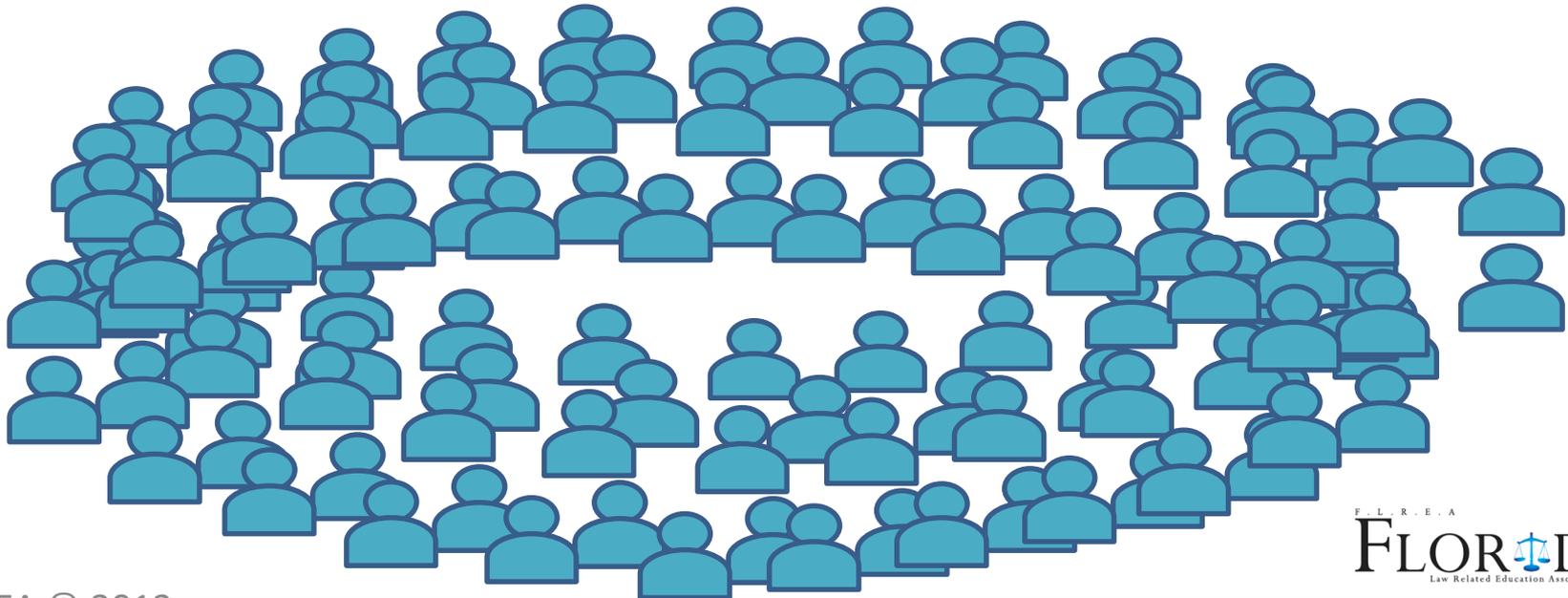
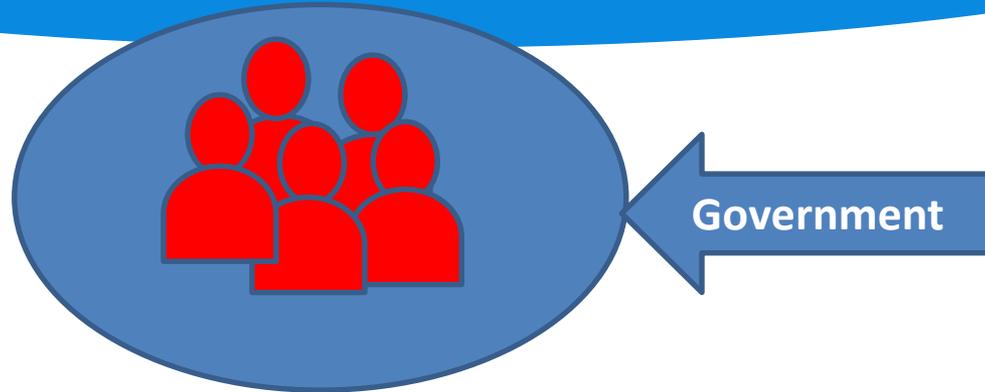
Constitutional Monarchy



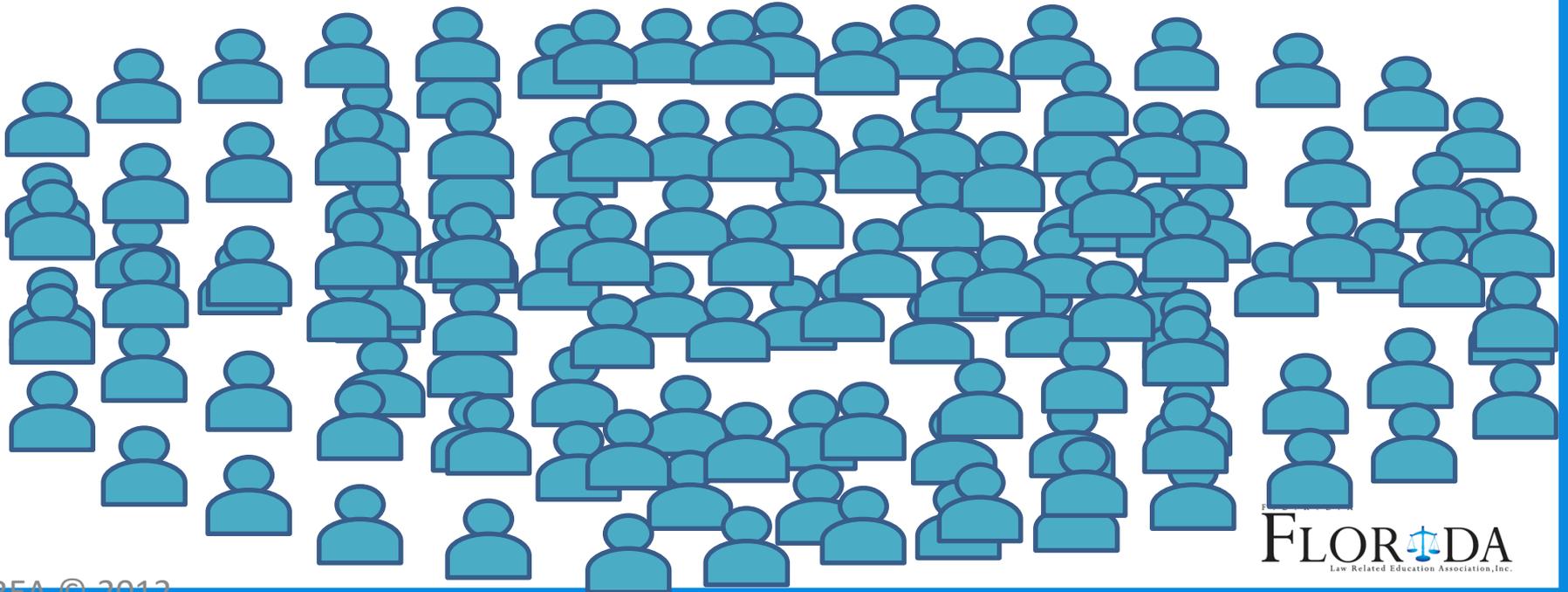
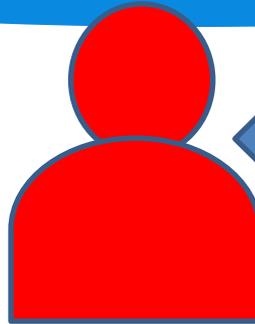
Absolute Monarchy



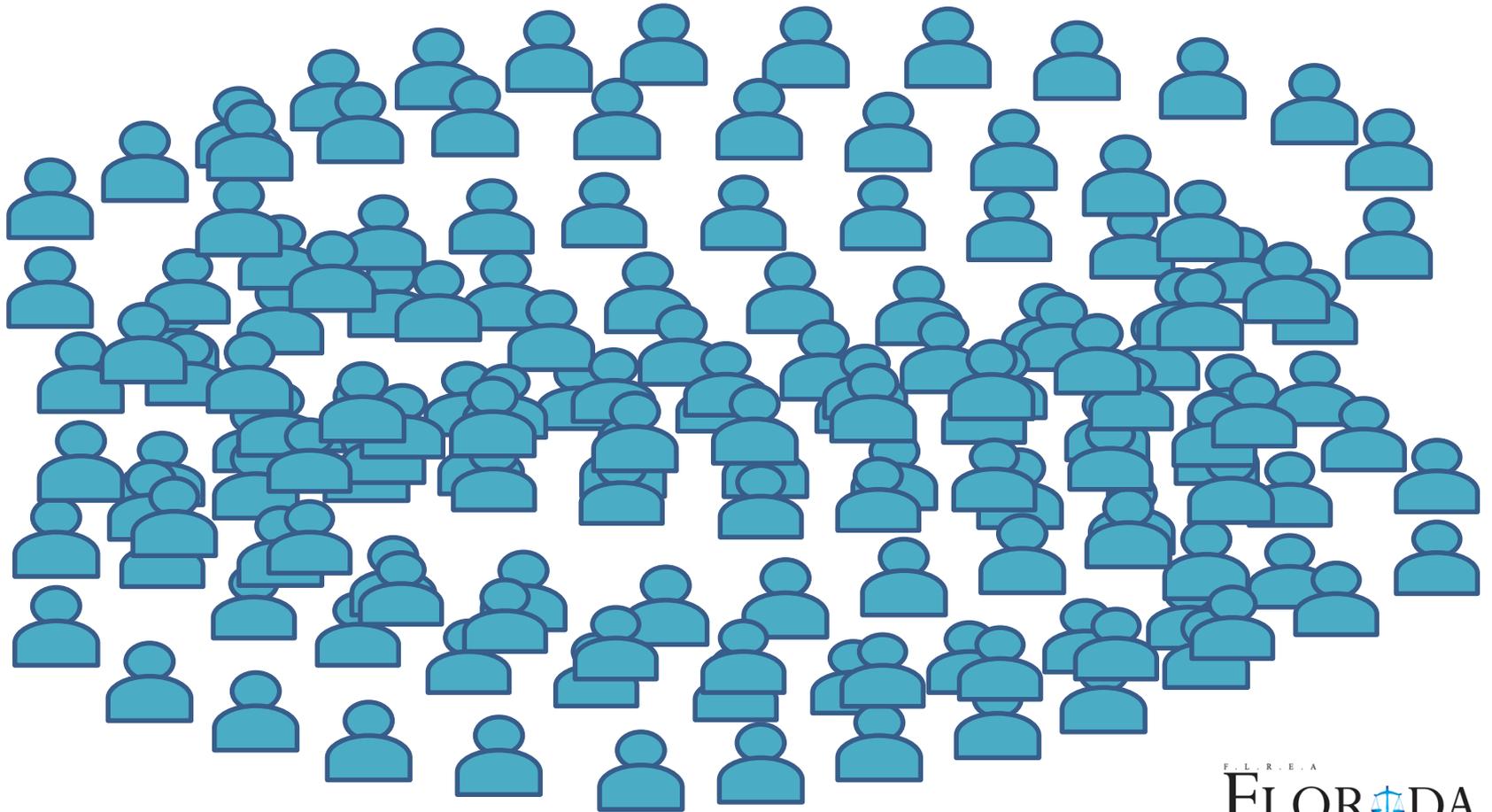
Oligarchy



Autocracy



Anarchy



Republic, Socialism, and Communism

WHAT ELSE IS THERE?

Republic

A **republic** is a form of government limited by written law (in our case, the U.S. Constitution) in which power is held by the people.

Like a representative democracy, citizens elect others to represent their interests in government.

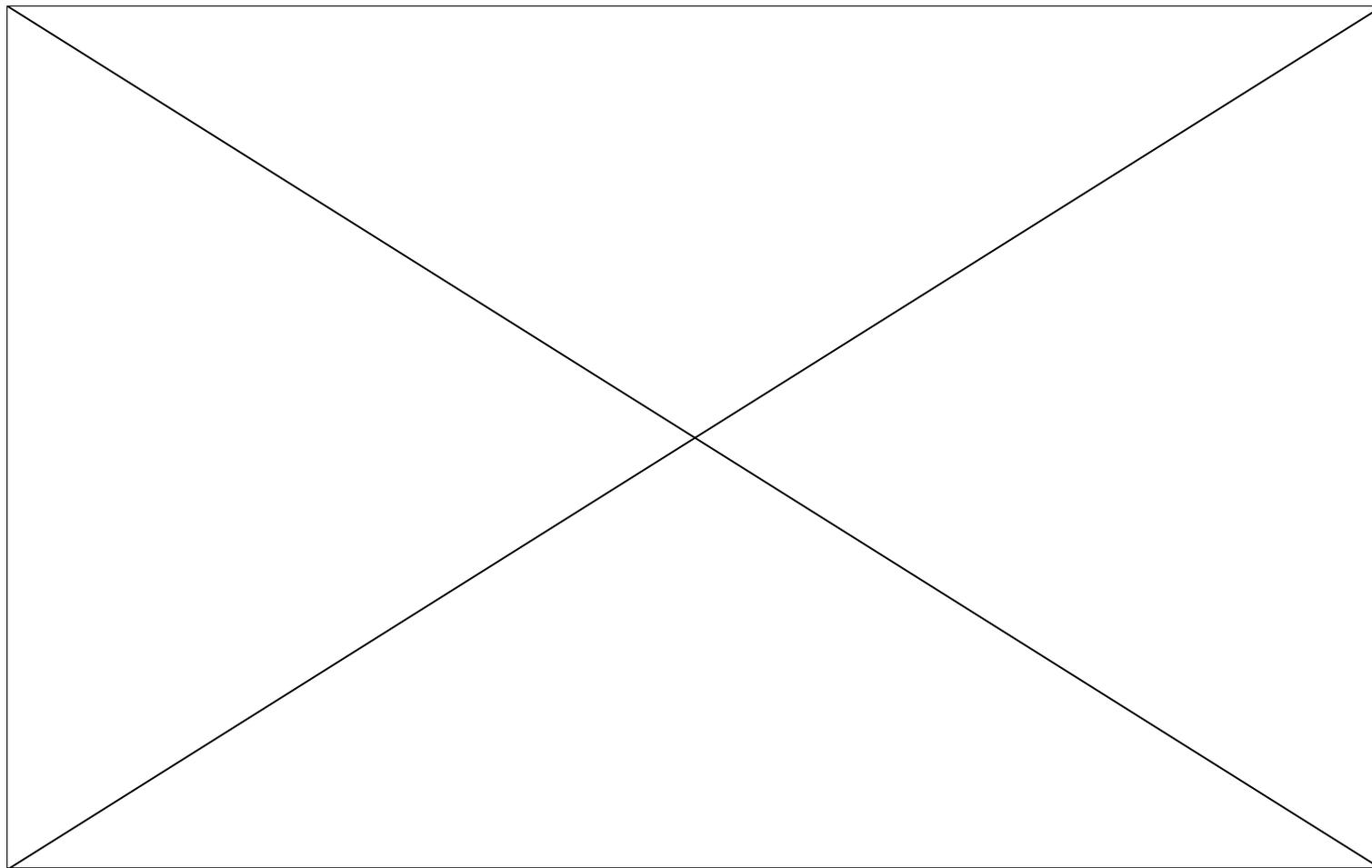
Socialism

- Economic system that **limits individual ownership**
- Still provides the opportunity for private property and private wealth

Communism

- In a communist government, the government owns all means of production and eliminates private property/business.
 - This means that all things are owned by the government and shared by the community.

A Teenage Girl Explains Different Forms of Government



Video created and published by “A Teenage Girl Explains” on YouTube.

The Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc. © 2016

If you were to have your own country, which form(s) of government would you put in place? Explain your answer!

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Checking for Understanding

What do an absolute monarchy and an autocracy have in common?

- A. a single ruler
- B. a written constitution
- C. a national court system
- D. a single legislative house