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| **THINKER** | **THEORY OF GOVERNMENT** | **INFLUENCE ON AMERICAN DEMOCRACY** |
| **HOBBES** | **Is a HATER! Because he thinks ppl are born greedy and bad. On Hobbes’ isle 999 ppl would be axe murderers and 1 would rise up and become the leader.**  **Gov’t must be created to protect the ppl from themselves**  **SOCIAL CONTRACT: The ppl give up their rights/liberties so the gov’t can protect them** | **N/A** |
| **LOCKE** | **Is a LOVER! Because he believes ppl are born reasonable. On Locke’s island the ppl would create government.**  **SOCIAL CONTRACT: The Gov’t must protect the *natural rights* (life, liberty and property) of the citizens. If it does not it is not legitimate and the ppl must overthrow it (gov’t)** | **Legitimacy in gov’t comes from the *consent of the governed*.**  **Natural rights are unalienable, cannot be denied to you and I…w/o due process of course** |
| **ROUSSEAU** | **Is Hobbes’ extreme opposite. On his isle ppl would love each other and create a utopia b/c are born good but society corrupts them.**  **Gov’t should create laws for the benefit of society as a whole**  **SOCIAL CONTRACT: The ppl give up some of their rights to the community for the greater good of all** | **Laws should benefit the ppl.**  **Govts should function under the *rule of law*** |
| **MONTESQUIEU** | **The making, interpreting and carrying out of laws should not be done by the same branches of gov’t**  **The gov’t should check its own power** | **Checks/balances**  **Separation of Powers** |