

French Revolution



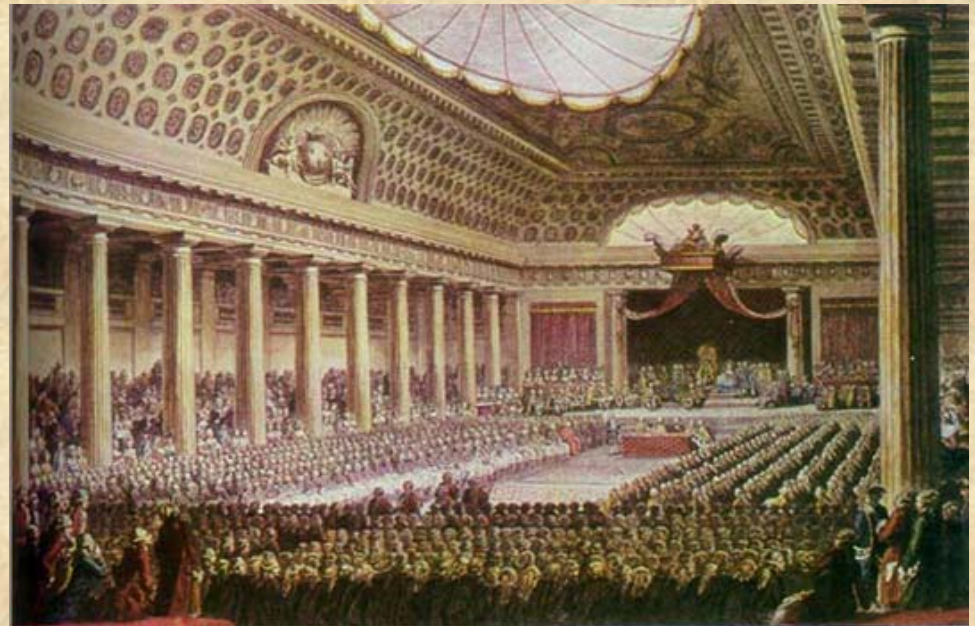
Causes and Attitudes

- The Enlightenment
- Anglophile feeling in France
- The American Revolution
- French system's lack of change
 - Louis XVI clung to Absolutism
 - King's response to the poor
 - Class resentment
 - Economic problems



First Stage (1789-1793)

- King desired new tax to stabilize economy
- *Estates General* (3 estates)
 - Not met for 150 years
 - Needed to meet
 - Certified by Parlement (high court)
 - Election in early 1789
- Finally met in Spring 1789
 - 3rd Estate walked out



First Stage

- National Assembly (1789-1793)
 - 3rd estate met in indoor tennis court
 - Resolved to stay in session until constitution could be written
 - King couldn't get money
 - King instructed 1st and 2nd estates to meet with National Assembly
 - 3rd estate doubled their numbers
 - 1st and 2nd sat on right, 3rd sat on left
 - Formed municipal government



First Stage

- Events at Bastille
 - July 14, 1789
 - Municipal government trying to get arms
- Revolts in the countryside



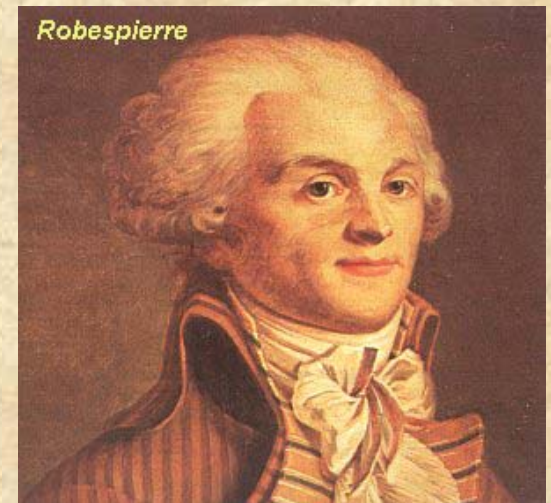
Actions of the National Assembly

- Destruction of privilege
- *Declaration of the Rights of Man*
- Secularization of the church
- New constitution

Second Stage

Radical revolution

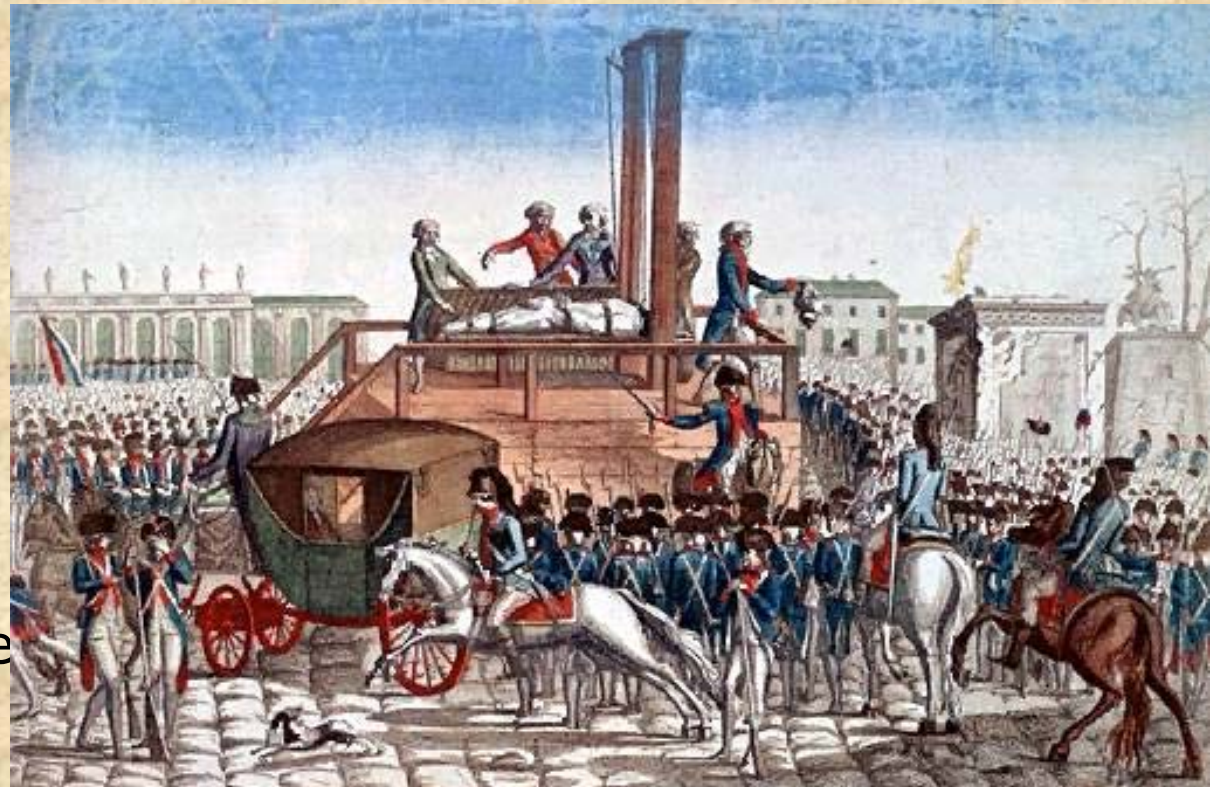
- Disillusionment of the lower class (inflation)
- Girondists (moderates) had no strong leader
- France drawn into war with Europe
- Failure in wars (1st coalition, 1792-1797)
 - Moderates removed as leaders of National Assembly
 - Counter-revolutions
 - King and queen arrested
- Jacobins take control



Second Stage

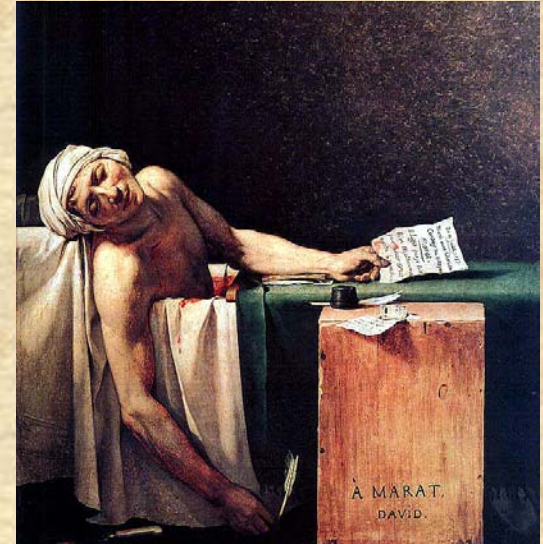
Reign of Terror (1793-1794)

- Committee for Public Safety
- France losing war with others in Europe
- Reforms
 - Metric system
 - New calendar
 - Universal suffrage
 - Slavery eliminated
 - Paris commune
 - Land redistribution
 - Defaced churches
- Guillotine
 - 20,000 die
 - King and queen die



Third Stage—Return of the moderates (1794-1799)

- Thermidorian reaction
- Counter-revolution
 - "Whiff of grapeshot"(1795)
- Death of Marat, Danton, Robespierre
 - Moderates gained control of National Convention
- Return of expatriate noblemen allowed (money)
- National Assembly re-elected
- Adoption of new constitution
 - Rule by the Directory

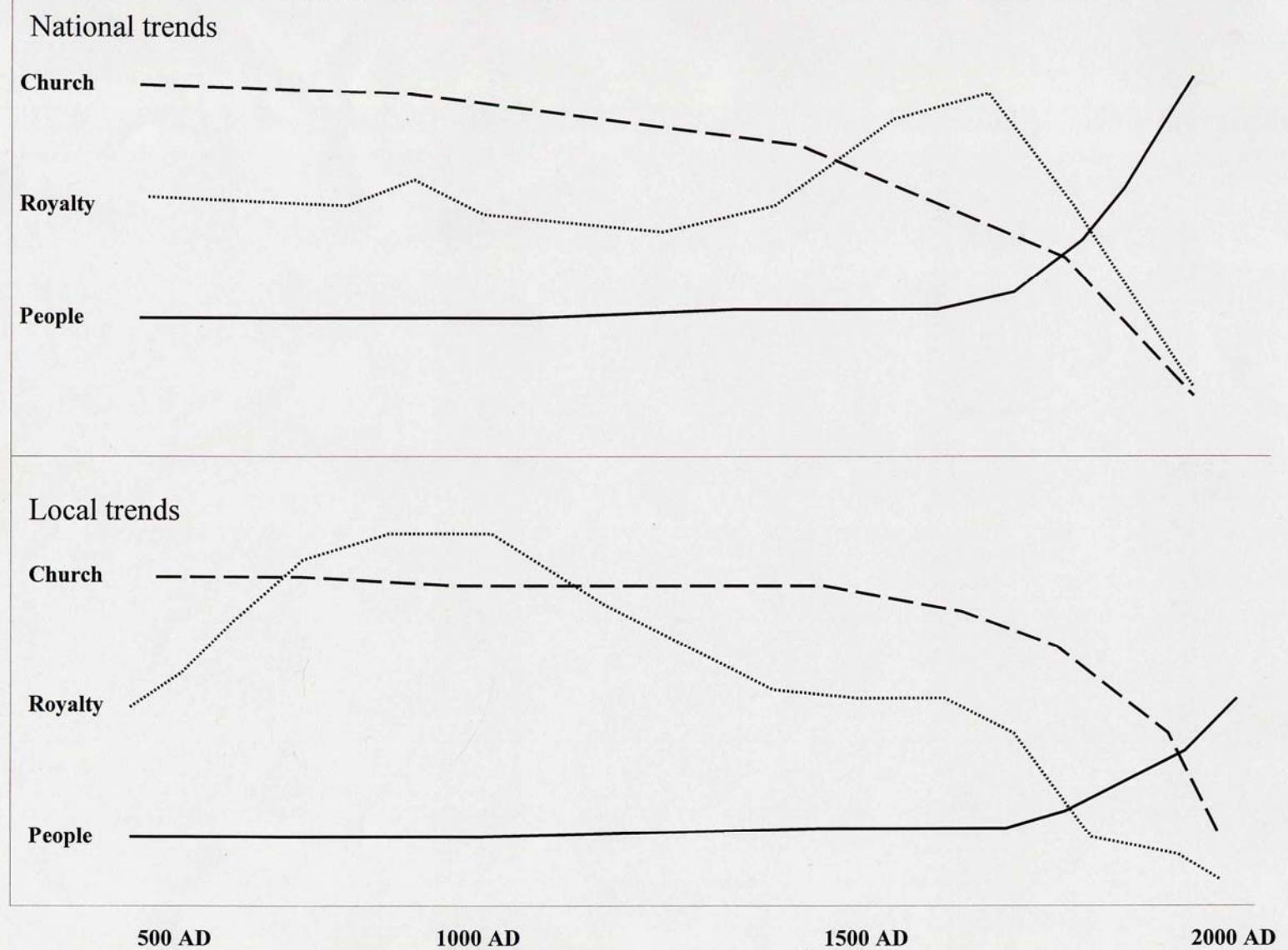


Third Stage—Return of the moderates

- The Directory governed
- Some military successes (Napoleon)
- Directory criticized for poor leadership
- Directory desperate for a popular leader
 - 2nd Coalition (1799-1801) formed
 - Napoleon invited to be consul



CHANGES IN THE NATURE AND CONTROL OF THE THREE ESTATES



Thank You

You Went The Wrong Way, Old King Louie

by Allan Sherman

- Louis the Sixteenth was the King of France in 1789.
He was worse than Louis the Fifteenth.
He was worse than Louis the Fourteenth.
He was worse than Louis the Thirteenth.
He was the worst since Louis the First.
King Louis was living like a king, but the people were living rotten.
So the people, they started an uprising which they called the French Revolution, and of course you remember their battle cry, which will never be forgotten:
- You went the wrong way, Old King Louie.
You made the population cry.
'Cause all you did was sit and pet
With Marie Antoinette
In your place at Versailles.
- And now the country's gone kablooie.
So we are giving you the air.
That oughta teach you not to
Spend all your time fooling 'round
At the Folies Bergere.
- If you had been a nicer king,
We wouldn't do a thing,
But you were bad, you must admit.
We're gonna take you and the Queen
Down to the guillotine,
And shorten you a little bit.
- You came the wrong way, Old King Louie.
And now you ain't got far to go.
Too bad you won't be here to see
That great big Eiffel Tower,
Or Brigitte Bardot.
- To you King Louie we say foey.
You disappointed all of France.
But then what else could we expect
From a king in silk stockings
And pink satin pants.
- You filled your stomach with chop suey.
And also crepe suzettes and steak.
And when they told your wife Marie
That nobody had bread, she said
"Let 'em eat cake."
- We're gonna take you and the Queen
Down to the guillotine,
It's somewhere in the heart of town.
And when that fella's through
With what he's gonna do,
You'll have no place to hang your crown.
- You came the wrong way Old King Louie.
Now we must put you on the shelf.
That's why the people are revolting, 'cause
Louie,
You're pretty revolting yourself!