

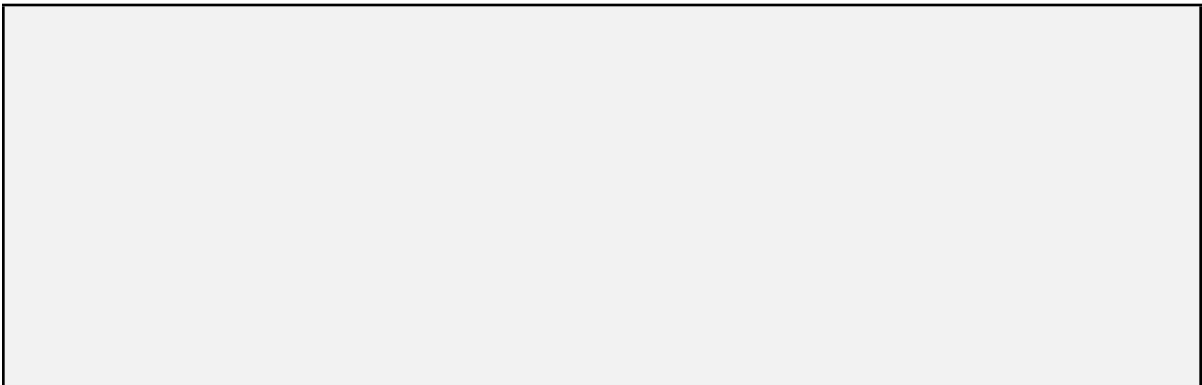
## WHOM DO YOU TRUST?

### Purpose

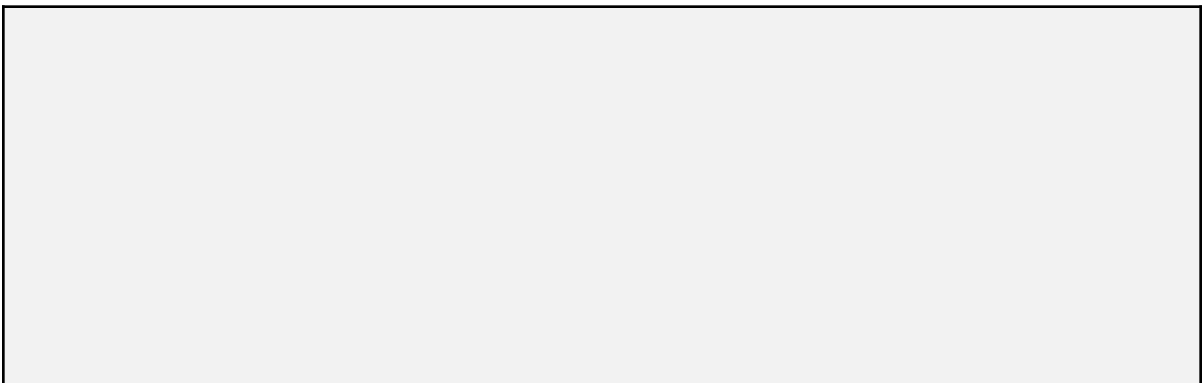
When big systems collapse, people have to figure out who should be next to take charge and why. In this opener, you'll consider what this might look like in your own life. This will help you understand what people in Europe and China experienced when their empires fell.

### Process

1. Imagine you wake up tomorrow and the government is *gone*. There are no national leaders, no police, and no courts.
2. In this scenario, whom would you trust to step into leadership and keep your community running?



3. Would those leaders get their authority from laws? Religion? Wealth? Fear? Popularity? Or something else? Explain.



4. If you can, discuss your responses with a classmate.