

John Locke was born in 1632 in Wrington, Somerset. The English philosopher and political theorist laid much of the groundwork for the Enlightenment and made central contributions to the development of liberalism. Between 1652 and 1667, John Locke was a student and then lecturer at Christ Church, Oxford, where he focused on the standard curriculum of logic, metaphysics and classics. In 1666 Locke met the parliamentarian Anthony Ashley Cooper, later the first Earl of Shaftesbury. The two struck up a friendship that blossomed into full patronage, and a year later Locke was appointed physician to Shaftesbury's household. During his decades of service to Shaftesbury, John Locke had been writing. In the six years following his return to England he published all of his most significant works.

Between 1652 and 1667, John Locke was a student and then lecturer at Christ Church, Oxford, where he focused on the standard curriculum of logic, metaphysics and classics. He also studied medicine extensively and was an associate of Robert Hooke, Robert Boyle and other leading Oxford scientists.

John Locke was among the most famous philosophers and political theorists of the 17th century. He is often regarded as the founder of a school of thought known as British Empiricism, and he made foundational contributions to modern theories of limited, liberal government. He was also influential in the areas of theology, religious toleration, and educational theory. In his most important work, the *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, Locke set out to offer an analysis of the human mind and its acquisition of knowledge.

Descartes believes that in order to find life's truths, he must first abandon everything they have been educated in and start fresh. After doing so, he set off to travel and learn from "the great book of the world" (1) with an unclouded mind. Locke, on the other hand, believed that the only truths that need to be discovered are things that are true to each unique individual. He states that everyone starts off life with a blank, white paper and over time our experiences furnish the paper. In the end, this book is filled with all our own unique truths, truths that may not be true to someone else.

René Descartes is often known as being the "Father of Modern Philosophy." This title is justified due both to his break with the traditional Scholastic-Aristotelian philosophy prevalent at his time and to his development and promotion of the new, mechanistic sciences. His fundamental break with Scholastic philosophy was twofold. First,

Descartes thought that the Scholastics' method was prone to doubt given their reliance on sensation as the source for all knowledge. Second, he wanted to replace their final causal model of scientific explanation with the more modern, mechanistic model.

Galileo began mounting a body of evidence that supported Copernican theory and contradicted Aristotle and Church doctrine. In 1612, he published his *Discourse on Bodies in Water*, refuting the Aristotelian explanation of why objects float in water, saying that it wasn't because of their flat shape, but instead the weight of the object in relation to the water it displaced. In 1613, he published his observations of sunspots, which further refuted Aristotelian doctrine that the sun was perfect. That same year, Galileo wrote a letter to a student to explain how Copernican theory did not contradict Biblical passages, stating that scripture was written from an earthly perspective and implied that science provided a different, more accurate perspective. The letter was made public and Church Inquisition consultants pronounced Copernican theory heretical. In 1616, Galileo was ordered not to "hold, teach, or defend in any manner" the Copernican theory regarding the motion of the earth. Galileo obeyed the order for seven years, partly to make life easier and partly because he was a devoted Catholic.

" And, in fine, our age appeared to me as flourishing and as fertile in powerful minds as any preceding one." We are young and our knowledge can grow. We need to take advantage of our youth and expand our minds. There are so many unanswered questions that we all as individuals have and there is nothing stopping us from finding the answers. Let's get to know ourselves and our "good sense". We all have a natural light and most people are not aware that sometimes "things" in society dim our own personal light. So we lose sight of our path. Descartes felt this way about school and staying in his country. So what did he do? He traveled with an open mind and made an experiment out of himself.

1689, the year John Locke's Essay, "An Essay Concerning Human Understanding" was written, was also the year the Bill of Rights was passed.

In his "Essay Concerning Human Understanding," he advanced a theory of the self as a blank page, with knowledge and identity arising only from accumulated experience. His political theory of government by the consent of the governed as a means to protect "life, liberty and estate" deeply influenced the United States' founding documents. His essays on religious tolerance provided an early model for the separation of church and state.

Locke's "Essay Concerning Human Understanding" (1689) outlined a theory of human knowledge, identity and selfhood. To Locke, knowledge was not the discovery of anything either innate or outside of the individual, but simply the accumulation of "facts" derived from sensory experience. To discover truths beyond the realm of basic experience, Locke suggested an approach modeled on the rigorous methods of experimental science.

John Locke was an English Philosopher in the 17th century who focused on modern philosophy. He is regarded as one of the most influential of Enlightenment Thinkers and known as the father of Classic Liberalism. Locke was the first to define the self through a continuity of consciousness. His main theory was that at birth, our mind is at a blank slate, or *tabula rasa*. He maintained that we are born without innate ideas, and that knowledge is instead determined only by experience derived from sense perception. He is equally important to the concept called social contract theory. In his "Essay Concerning Human Understanding," he proposed a theory of human knowledge and identity.

John Locke was born in August of 1632 in England and died in October 1704. He was an English philosopher who was known to be a very influential man of the Enlightenment period. His work greatly affected the development of epistemology and political philosophy. In his "Essay Concerning Human Understanding" Locke speaks about the foundation of human knowledge and the understanding process. He helps us understand how the human brain fills up with knowledge over time; starting off empty at birth and filling up as life progresses with memories and experiences. He stresses the fact that one cannot be born with innate ideas rather infants have no ideas of their own until they start forming over time.

Descartes was a french philosopher, mathematician, scientist. He lived mostly in Netherlands. The french title for his writing "Discourse on the Method of Rightly Conducting the Reason, and seeking Truth in the Sciences" is "Discours de la méthode pour bien conduire sa raison, et chercher la vérité dans les sciences". Descartes was in Leiden, Netherlands when he wrote the book, which is the place where it was also published. Although most philosophical and scientific texts were in Latin at this time, the book was first written in French, which is a fact worth noting. It was, however, later on translated and published in Latin also.