

Q Compare and Contrast the different Political philosophies of Hobbes and Locke. How are these philosophies implemented in present day political system and policy making?

## Introduction

Hobbes and Locke 17th Century Political philosophers, although they argue over the same discipline but ~~there~~ differ in terms of their political ideologies.

Hobbes having not so luxury in his childhood and dishearted from Scholasticism turn towards ~~scientific~~ scientific ideologies and was influenced by the mathematical analysis. Due to this he wanted to create a perfect political structure for a state to run properly.

On the other hand John Locke had quite a different upbringing

than Thomas Hobbes. He was born of a well educated family.

Mild as he was in his political ideologies he focuses on Common well being rather than a perfect structure of a state.

## Hobbes's Method and Locke's Treatise

Due to the influence of Scientific revolution on Hobbes he was desperate to have an absolute practical state of governance, which he perfectly portrays in his book "The Leviathan". His methods includes an absolute ruler (monarch) to rule the subject whether by force or by an institution to secure and preserve him, State plus the Subjects (civilians).

However, Locke's treatise were a rather flexible. He



Published two treatise in 1689

(i) First treatise: was a critic against Plimer's theory of Patriarchia; "the natural selection of a ruler by God"

(ii) Second treatise: was about nature of state and law by a proper commonwealth majority ruler and a proper conduction of laws by a judicial institution.

## Nature of State and Natural Law

### Hubbe

### Locke

(i) Denies the divine rule of law

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(ii) an absolute ruler either by force or by an institution

(iii) A commonwealth majority winning ruler, who is not absolute

(iii) Defines natural law by the nature

Defines natural laws by two

	psychological nature of human, which is fear of security	distinct feature: (a) freedom (b) equality of law among people
(iv)	Does not explain the natural rights of human	How thoroughly explain the natural rights of human.
(v)	The judicial judgements are in the hands of the absolute	a distinct judicial judgement system for the good of society.
(vi)	The ruler (monarch) is the absolute authority and is the Supreme judge	judicial institution is the Supreme judge but is not absolute authority.
(vii)	Man are selfish, and decide good and evil by their likes and dislikes	Commonwealth majority decides good and evil through a Communal vote.
(viii)	No freedom for revolt or revolution	freedom for revolution and right to overthrow the ruler. if



(ix)	does not discuss property rights of people	discuss the right of property & divides it into 3 parts lives, rights, proper.
(x)	Governance and subject are not linked together	Governance and subjects are not partners but Governance works for the subject (public).

## Implementation of their Political System.

The political ideologies of Hobbes and Locke are completely opposite. Hobbes political philosophy favours the rigid ideology and Locke's political philosophy has flexibility. In the contemporary world Locke's political theory is more likely to be implemented than Hobbes. And due to Locke's

flexible ideologies and Comprehensive theories, we can witness these laws in the current world, where mostly people are the sovereign and are a Commonwealth majority of selecting a leader or ruler.

## Conclusion

Hobbes and Locke both were great political thinkers at their period. However, Hobbes did not have that futuristic insights to his political thoughts and ideologies, and was stuck in the present time of absolute monarchy, which offered little freedom to the public making it a fascist society rather than a well governed one.

On Locke's side his futuristic insights were far



more greater and his political  
thought flexible which allowed  
public to be a Community  
and rule ~~as~~ as one as  
a Common wealth majority  
for the betterment of the  
State and government

