

lah 231b



**ASSIGN
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super patriotism the view that gov't power is legitimate and that citizens have a powerful obligation to obey governmental laws and directives
 political cynicism the view that the gov't claims to act for the common good but they are in fact tools for servicing the interests of those who hold power
 anarchism anti-political philosophy
 3 claims of anarchism
 1. no gov'ts are legitimate

2. no one has a moral duty to obey the law

3. human beings would be better off w/o gov'ts
 critical citizenship the view that one cannot reasonably decide either that all gov'ts are legitimate or that none are
 parent argument
 1. the state is socrates' parent

2. everyone ought to obey his/her parents

3. if socrates escapes, he disobeys his parent

4. therefore, socrates ought not escape
 benefactor argument
 1. the state is socrates' benefactor

2. everyone ought to obey his/her benefactor

3. if socrates escapes he disobeys his benefactor

4. therefore socrates ought not escape
 agreement argument
 1. socrates made an agreement to obey the state

2. everyone ought to keep his/her agreements

3. if socrates escapes he will violate his agreement

4. therefore socrates ought not escape
 Thrasymachus' cynic view "just or right means nothing but what is to the interest of the stronger party" two versions of political cynicism

1. equivalent of Thrasymachus' view: rulers are out for self and manipulate the state for their own good

2. subtle version: rulers actually see themselves as acting for the good of society as a whole & sincerely reject that they're defenders of oppression

distinct views of cynicism

1. a description of the nature of gov't

2. a prescription or recommendation about how we should act toward gov't and politics

local cynicism people who look at their gov't and assert it's organized to benefit the rulers

universal cynicism those who believe all gov'ts are organized to benefit the rulers

necessary cynicism all gov'ts are by nature exploitative

contingent cynicism while some are exploitative not all are necessarily

key points in argument for anarchism

1. individual autonomy has extraordinary value

2. gov'ts and laws limit freedom by imposing restrictions on individuals and supporting those restrictions w/ force

two reasons for high value of freedom

1. all of us value and desire many things

2. freedom is simply the ability to act to achieve our goals and satisfy our desires

universalizability the idea that a moral principle is only valid or acceptable if it could be followed by everyone

evils of government

- 1.

economic inequality

2. prisons and criminal justice

3. war and the state

philosophical anarchism

anarchists who believe in the 1st three 3 beliefs but not the 3rd. (gov'ts ought to be abolished)

first source of conflict in "state of nature" scarcity

second source of conflict in "state of nature" competition

third source of conflict in "state of nature" motive of fear or suspicion (aka diffidence)

fourth source of conflict in "state of nature" desire to be "top dog" or "number 1" (domination)

objections to critical citizenship

1. anarchists

2. super patriots

MLK's criteria for determining if disobedience is justified

1. any law degrading humanity is unjust

2. any law is a code that a power majority uses to compel a minority

3. a law is unjust if it is inflicted on a minority group

4. if a law is unjust by its application three questions for determining if disobedience is justified

1. what sort of gov't is in power?

2. what sorts of procedures were followed in the passing of the law?

3. what sort of law is it? two ways critical citizenship can go wrong in evaluating gov'ts and laws

1. be mistaken that a particular gov't or law is unjust

2. choose wrong means to oppose unjust gov't or laws ONIAH 231B SPECIFICALLY FOR YOU FOR ONLY \$13.90/PAGE Order Now