

Ch. 9 – Imposing liberalism

Cloze Notes

S.O. 2.11 – Examine perspectives on the imposition of liberalism

- So far this unit, we've talked about the roots of liberalism, impacts of and responses to classical liberalism (_____, _____), the rejection of liberalism (_____, _____), and the impact of ideologies in conflict (_____, _____). In Chapter 9, we look at the **imposition** of liberalism and some of its effects

Imposing liberalism

- **Imposition** (or imposing) means _____ something on people whether they want it or not. Liberalism has been imposed on people at various points in history, sometimes with _____ consequences
- Today, we'll look at the imposition of liberalism in Canada and in other countries

Aboriginal experiences of liberalism

- As we know, contact between First Nations in Canada and European settlers presented conflicting worldviews and _____. Most European settlers brought with them _____ (individualist) values and beliefs, while many First Nations believed in _____ ideas
- Subsequently, values of liberalism would be imposed on Aboriginals in an attempt to _____ them into "mainstream" Canadian society

Different views on treaties

First Nations	Government of Canada
Treaties are agreements made between sovereign nations, upheld by oral tradition	Treaties are agreements made by interested parties, upheld by a written document
Relationship with land is collective, spiritual. Land provided by Creator, and people exist in harmony with the land	Land is a resource that can be owned by individuals for their own use
Treaties were established to share the land with newcomers	Treaties were established to clear way for European settlement

- _____ by Aboriginals to liberal values was not accepted by the Canadian government. This led to policies of assimilation, a plan to impose adherence to liberal goals on Aboriginals
- Under these policies Aboriginals were supposed to give up their _____ cultures and traditions, such as the potlatch

The Indian Act of 1876

- This act was used by government to control the behaviour of First Nations peoples and remove their traditions and customs. They were encouraged to leave their Indian status to become “_____” citizens of Canada. They were seen as “_____” who needed to be taken care of or _____ of the state.
- The Indian Act took away their **collective rights** through its policies of assimilation into the more individualistic liberal society
- Since _____, the Indian Act has been amended several times, but has never been abolished. Some examples:
 - 1884 – prohibited _____ ceremonies (potlatch, etc.)
 - 1951 – loss of Indian status for women who _____ non-status men
 - 1969 – The _____ **Paper** proposed by gov’t – sought to _____ all evidence of relations between Canada and First Nations. Purpose was to enable Aboriginals to become “free” members of Canada’s liberal democracy, where the rights of the individual are more important than the collective
 - 1969 – Aboriginals respond by publishing the _____ **Paper**, which objected to what they saw as the government’s attempt to impose liberalism on them
 - 1985 – Women could keep or _____ their status even after marrying a non-status man and _____ of such a marriage were granted status
- The Indian Act affected female identity because women were removed from their traditional positions of power and importance. Gender _____ was partially removed with the ruling in 1985 that reinstated their status rights

Attempts to assimilate the Inuit & Metis

- One example of an attempt by the gov’t to assimilate the _____ is revealed in the ongoing investigation into the killing of thousands of Inuit sled dogs (Qimmitt) between 1950 and 1970. The Inuit say the RCMP slaughtered the dogs on orders from the Canadian gov’t

- An RCMP review report in 2006 stated that indeed they killed many of the animals for _____ safety reasons, to contain canine epidemics, and on behalf of requests from the dogs' owners
- The Metis were offered _____, legal documents either in the form of land or money, to compensate them for their loss of original territory
- From the Metis perspective, scrip represented the imposition of liberal policies which treated them as individuals instead of as distinct collective groups of people

The Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples

- Findings were published in 1996 – stated that Aboriginals in Canada must have the right to decide for _____ what they need
- Since 1996, many people have been critical of what they see as a lack of government action to address some of the recommendation's concerns
- One positive result of the Commission's recommendations was the creation of the **Aboriginal _____ Foundation**. Its mission is to encourage and support Aboriginals in their recovery from physical and sexual abuse that many suffered in the - _____ school system. To accomplish this, more than \$400 million was awarded to various programs across Canada. The Assembly of First Nations has called the program a success

The imposition of liberalism in the world

- Should liberalism be imposed on everybody?
- What if another country invaded Canada, took control here, and tried to impose an _____ on Canada?
- This sounds unlikely, yet millions of people around the world has experienced a similar situation. Some people in war-torn countries welcome peacekeepers, others do not
- Why should liberalism be imposed on those who do not want it?
- Two main reasons why one country may try and impose liberalism on another:

National interest: imposing liberalism to eliminate or reduce _____ threats or for reasons of _____ interest

Humanitarianism: Imposing liberalism for _____ or ethical reasons, such as to improve living conditions or to stop human rights _____

- Imposing liberalism for National Interest
- At the end of WWI, U.S. President Wilson insisted that Germany and its allies had to agree to establish democratic governments as a condition of the peace treaties. His view was that _____ and self-determination had to be established in Europe as a basis for _____

Imposing liberalism by the use of force

- Some believe that if more countries embraced the ideology of liberal democracy, then the world would be a safer place. This belief was used to justify the “war on terror” after the 9/11 attacks. The U.S. and allies invaded _____ to take the _____ regime out of power (they had aided the 9/11 terrorists)
- Democratic elections were held in 2004
- The U.S. invaded Iraq in 2003 based on the same premise. However, the war in Iraq did not receive international approval

Imposing liberalism for humanitarian reasons

- Some people believe that liberal countries should not _____ non-liberal countries that deny their citizens’ human rights. Is intervention justified in these cases?
- Forceful intervention in a foreign country does not always _____ improved living conditions for the citizens of that country. The U.S.-led war on terror was partly based on human rights issues. Under the Taliban, Afghan women were denied basic human rights, and Saddam Hussein’s reign over Iraq was characterized by fear, crimes against humanity, and brutal torture tactics

Reactions to the imposition of democracy

Rwanda

- Western governments insisted that the country should have _____ elections. A coalition government was formed, and as a result conflicts between ethnic groups arose which led to the 1994 _____

- One journalist compared the West's attempts at imposing liberal democracy on other countries to the colonial rulers who forced Aboriginal peoples to replace their own governing systems with colonial systems

Indonesia

- After WWII, it was ruled as a military dictatorship. In 1998, the government faced an economic crisis; the IMF denied financial support in an attempt to force the country to use more democratic means. The country's first parliamentary election was held in 1999
- While the country faces ongoing challenges, Indonesians seem to have embraced the values of liberal democracy
- So...should liberalism be imposed?
- Depends on a lot of factors
- Tom Keating, a professor at the U of A, says that many of the violent conflicts in the world since WWI have occurred *within* countries such as Rwanda and Bosnia rather than *between* countries. Referring to Canada's foreign policy, Keating argues that the health of a country's political institutions depends on its own citizens, not on foreign intervention
-

Chapter 9

2.9 – Examine perspectives on the imposition of liberalism

Answer the following questions.

1. Define *imposition*:

2. In a sentence or two, explain the difference between the First Nations worldview and the European worldview at the time of European settlement in Canada:

5. What was the government's intention in creating the Indian Act?

6. Define *assimilation*:

7. Do you think the terms set out in the **White Paper** would deny Aboriginals their rights or do you think they would promote their rights? Explain your answer.

13. Read the sections on Rwanda and Indonesia (p.236-237). Considering these examples, and with what you now know about the imposition of liberalism, answer the following question:

Is resistance to liberalism justified?