

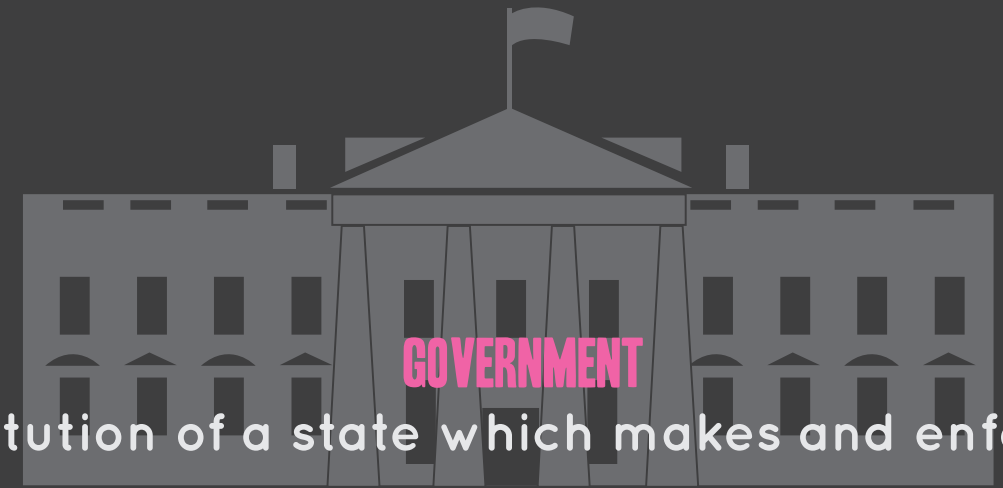
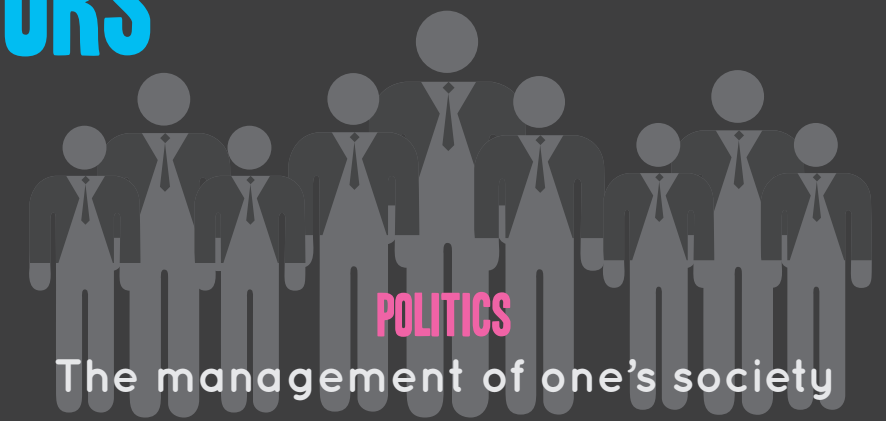
YOU DON'T KNOW JACK

Idiot's Edition

about politics

A national poll finds more Americans know Snow White's dwarfs than supreme court justices*, Homer Simpson than Homer's Odyssey, and Harry Potter than Tony Blair. So I'm breaking it down for you, idiot style, to enlighten the masses.

DEFINING FACTORS



DESCRIPTIONS OF GOVERNMENTS CAN BE BASED ON 3 THINGS:



ECONOMY

What provides the goods and services that are bought, sold, and used?



POLITICS

How is the government being run?



AUTHORITY

Who picks the government?



CAPITALISM

JAPAN

In a capitalist or free-market economy, people own their own businesses and property and must buy services for private use, such as healthcare.



DICTATORSHIP

BURMA- UNION OF MYANMAR

Rule by a single leader who has not been elected and may use force to keep control. In a military dictatorship, the army is in control. Usually, there is little or no attention to public opinion or individual rights.



TOTALITARIAN

NORTH KOREA

Rule by a single political party. People are forced to do what the government tells them and may also be prevented from leaving the country.



OLIGARCHY/PLUTOCRACY

RUSSIA?

A form of government which consists of rule by an elite group who rule in their own interests, especially the accumulation of wealth and privilege. Only certain members of society have a valid voice in the government. This can reflect (but is not limited to) economic interests, a particular religious tradition, or familial rule.



SOCIALISM

NORWAY

Socialist governments own many of the larger industries and provide education, health and welfare services while allowing citizens some economic choices



THEOCRACY

IRAN

A form of government where the rulers claim to be ruling on behalf of a set of religious ideas, or as direct agents of a deity.



MONARCHY

JORDAN

A monarchy has a king or queen, who sometimes has absolute power. Power is passed along through the family.



DEMOCRACY

INDIA

In a democracy, the government is elected by the people. Everyone who is eligible to vote - which is a majority of the population - has a chance to have their say over who runs the country.



COMMUNISM

CUBA

In a communist country, the government owns all businesses and farms and provides its people's healthcare, education and welfare.



PARLIAMENTARY

ISRAEL

A parliamentary system is led by representatives of the people. Each is chosen as a member of a political party and remains in power as long as his/her party does.



REPUBLIC

USA

A republic is led by representatives of the voters. Each is individually chosen for a set period of time.

REMEMBER:

Nearly every country in the world is ruled by a system that combines 2 or more of these (for example, the USA is not a true capitalist society, since the government actually provides some services for its citizens). Additionally, one person's opinion of the type of government may differ from another's.

10 THINGS YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ECONOMIES AROUND THE WORLD

1. The United States Government keeps its supply of silver at the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York.

2. The eight most developed countries all speak Germanic languages.

3. 72% of people in Mali earn less than \$1 per day.

4. 41% world's poor people live in India.

5. The ten most generous countries are all in Europe.

6. The United Kingdom and United States are both in the top ten for Gross Domestic Product - and for child poverty.

7. France is the top destination in the world for tourists, accounting for 11% of all tourist arrivals worldwide.

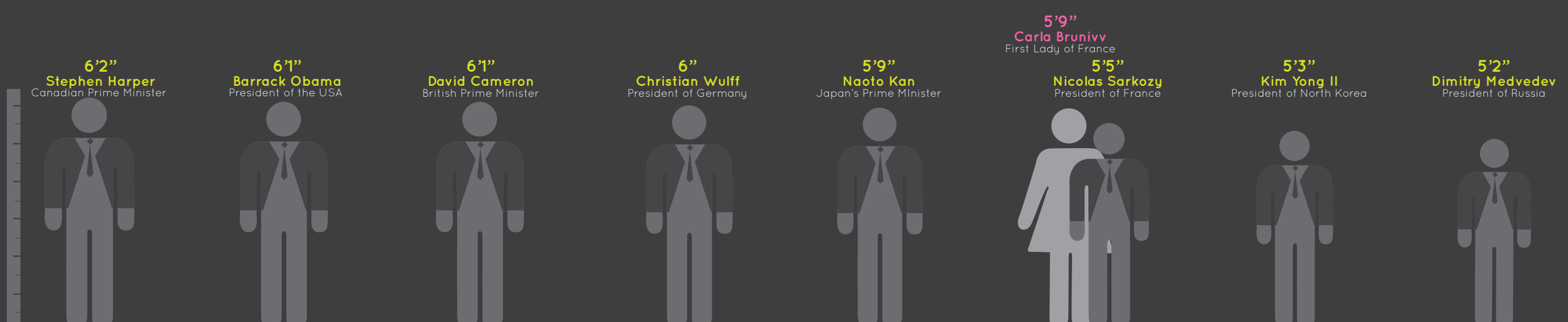
8. Canada has the ninth biggest economy of the world

9. There are 138 stock exchanges in the world.

10. Four of the richest countries in the world with some of the highest personal income, Bahrain, Brunei, Kuwait, and Qatar, have no tax at all.

SIZE MATTERS

LEADERS OF THE WORLD BY HEIGHT



Sources:
<http://www.statfamily.com/mrstatz/WorldAffairs/typesofgovt.html>
<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20060814005496/en/National-Poll-Finds-Americans-Snow-Whites-Dwarfs>
<http://www.wikipedia.com>
<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/story?id=5314996&page=2>

<http://www.randomfacts.org/government-facts/>
<http://www.wec.ca/english/2/canada-facts.cfm>
<http://www.witlknowfactshow.com/moneyecon.html>

NOW YOU CAN COUNT YOURSELF ENLIGHTENED

*Names of current supreme court justices: John G. Roberts, Elena Kagan, Samuel A. Alito, Jr., Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor