

Cosmic 2: Antiestablishment: Nationalism: Collectivism: Regulation of Private Enterprise, Redistribution of Wealth, & Public Ownership of Businesses; Individualism: Maximum Freedom, Self-Reliance, Privacy, & Respect for Others

Collectivism is the polar opposite of individualism and both need to be defined, for by definition, Progressives are collectivists while traditionalists are individualists. Here are their definitions:

Collectivism: Any social organization in which the individual is seen as being subordinate to a social collectivity such as a state, a nation, a race, or a social class. Collectivism may be contrasted with individualism, in which the rights and interests of the individual are emphasized.

The earliest modern, influential expression of collectivist ideas is in the French writer Jean-Jacques Rousseau's *Du contrat social* (*The Social Contract*), of 1762, in which it is argued that the individual finds his true being and freedom only in submission to the "general will" of the community. In the early 19th century, the German philosopher G. W. F. Hegel argued that the individual realizes his true being and freedom only in unqualified submission to the laws and institutions of the nation-state, which to Hegel was the highest embodiment of social morality. The German revolutionary thinker Karl Marx later provided the most succinct statement of the collectivist view of the primacy of social interaction in the preface to his *Zur kritik der politischen Ökonomie* [*The Critique of Political Economy*]: "It is not men's consciousness," he wrote, "which determines their being, but their social being which determines their consciousness."

Collectivism has found varying degrees of expression in the 20th century in Socialism, Communism, and Fascism. The least collectivistic is social democracy, which seeks to reduce the inequities of unrestrained capitalism by regulation, redistribution of income, and varying degrees of planning and public ownership. In Communist systems collectivism is carried to its furthest extreme, with a minimum of private ownership and a totally planned economy. The collectivist ideal under Communism is expressed in the motto that the individual will contribute to production "according to his ability" and be rewarded, in material terms, "according to his needs."¹

Collectivism is precisely what the current government is desperately trying to put in place, defined here as a social democracy in which the individual must become "subordinate to a social collectivity such as a state (or) a nation." The social organization upon which the United States was founded is revealed in the definition of the term "individualism":

Individualism. *The political and social philosophy that places high value on the individual. It also involves a theory of human nature and a distinctive attitude toward political, economic, and social arrangements.*

Its value system may be described in terms of three propositions: all values are man-centered—that is, they are experienced (but not necessarily created) by human beings; the individual is an end in himself and is of supreme value, society being only a means to individual ends; and all individuals are in some sense morally equal, this equality being best expressed by the proposition that no one should ever be treated solely as a means to the well-being of another person.

¹ "Collectivism," in *The New Encyclopaedia Britannica: Micropaedia*, 15th ed. (Chicago: Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1979), 3:6.

The individualistic theory of human nature holds that the interests of the individual are best served by allowing him maximum freedom and responsibility for choosing and achieving his objectives; it further holds that the act of making such choices contributes to the development of the individual and to the welfare of society. Society, from this point of view, is seen as only a collection of individuals, each a self-contained and, ideally, almost self-sufficient entity. Individualism stresses self-reliance, privacy, and respect for other individuals. Negatively, it embodies opposition to tradition, to authority, and to all controls over the individual, especially when they are exercised by the state.

Liberal democracy is the favoured form of government, and free enterprise, or laissez-faire, the approved economic policy. The role of the state is to maximize individual freedom and opportunity; government should confine itself largely to maintaining law and order, preventing individuals from interfering with one another, and enforcing agreements (contracts) voluntarily arrived at.²

The prevailing historical trend in twenty-first-century America is toward collectivism, the social organization that has been communicated to children as the preferred social arrangement for the past forty years while at the same time the principles of individualism have been diminished and belittled.

Collectivism transfers power away from the people over to the state where The Village makes all decisions and its citizens are expected to submit.

Under individualism The Village protects the life, privacy, and property of the individual while he uses his freedom and self-reliance to accomplish objectives that result in the betterment of all other individuals through the function of free enterprise.

For collectivism to be successful, all of The Village's citizens must agree to allow the civic leaders to determine what is best for all. For individualism to be successful, The Village must allow citizens to determine what is best for all and the civic leaders are delegated power to protect and insure the freedom required for any or all to prosper.

Collectivism trends toward internationalism while individualism trends toward nationalism. Babel was based on collectivism while Israel was based on individualism.

The characteristics of internationalism are displayed in the Genesis 11 account of Babel. The Christian is commanded to submit to the controlling authorities of the national entity of which he is a citizen.

Every form of internationalism is satanically inspired and is therefore in opposition to biblical teachings. Internationalism implies one ruling authority governing several national entities. This was addressed at Babel and is therefore unacceptable to God.

Whenever a small group of people have unbridled authority over a population it devolves to principles of communism, fascism, or socialism. What falls victim is freedom both civic and religious.

² "Individualism," in *The New Encyclopaedia Britannica: Micropaedia*, 5:339.

