

STUDY TASK CARD 4

Origins of Governance

Governance; *the act or manner of managing a state or organisation*



Imagine you and ten other people are unexpectedly marooned on a deserted and desolate island, with no hope of rescue (don't worry about the details of how you got there; at this point, that's history!)

Abandoned and isolated, without aid or resources and possibly in a dangerous environment

What emotions would everyone be experiencing?

How would everyone manage?

What would you do if it happened to you?

Everyone is fearful of what can happen to them, especially if they find themselves in a potentially dangerous situation. People become selfish and move into survival mode, where they only look out for themselves. This is especially the case when people find themselves sharing their position of dire circumstances with others. The feeling of fear develops into feeling threatened. The ripple effects of human emotions escalate, as this diagram shows:



This is called **The State of Nature**

Humans need order to be managed or controlled for them to feel more secure. If you unexpectedly found yourself in circumstances that threatened your security and survival, even you would look to someone who could support and help improve your situation. Forming a state of leadership, either as an individual or group of people, is a natural outcome that develops from the need to establish order and control.

Natural Human Rights

The concept of governance forms when people make an agreement to give up freedoms in exchange for protection, and therefore avoid conflict. All humans share the rights to **LIFE, LIBERTY** and **PROPERTY** when they are born; regardless of where, when, or who they were born to. Governance develops when the protection of these rights for individuals is negotiated and agreed to by the people involved.

Imagine you are the one who was chosen to be leader for the group marooned on the island. Write a set of rules and expectations all survivors must live by, to maintain peace and harmony. Include in your orders, an explanation outlining how each of the following concerns will be managed in order to keep the support from everyone involved:



1. Equality
2. Respect
3. Fairness
4. Ownership of property
5. The process for conflicts to be resolved
6. How will the rules (or laws) be decided and enforced?
7. What consequences will there be for breaking the rules?