

## Excerpts from the Communist Manifesto, by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels (1848)

*Note: Bourgeoisie referred to the new business and industrial class that had emerged in the last few centuries as a result of the Industrial Revolution (as opposed to the traditional landed aristocracy); proletariat referred to the workers in these factories (owned by the bourgeoisie), who, in Marx' view, were "wage slaves."*

Society as a whole is more and more splitting up into two great hostile camps, into two great classes directly facing each other bourgeoisie and proletariat...[the Bourgeoisie] has resolved personal worth into exchange value, and in place of the numberless infeasible (not able to be lost) chartered freedoms, has set up that single, unconscionable freedom—Free Trade. In one word, for exploitation, veiled by religious and political illusions,

it has substituted naked, shameless, direct, brutal exploitation...

The ruling ideas of each age have ever been the ideas of its ruling class...We have seen above that the first step in the revolution by the working class is to raise the proletariat to the position of ruling class to win the battle of democracy. The proletariat will use its political supremacy to wrest, by degree, all capital from the bourgeoisie, to centralize all instruments of production in the hands of the state, i. e., of the proletariat organized as the ruling class; and to increase the total productive forces as rapidly as possible. These measures will, of course, be different in different countries. Nevertheless, in most advanced countries, the following will be pretty generally applicable.

1. Abolition of property in land and application of all rents of land to public purposes.
2. A heavy progressive or graduated income tax.
3. Abolition of all rights of inheritance.
4. Confiscation of the property of all emigrants and rebels.
5. Centralization of credit in the banks of the state, by means of a national bank with state capital and an exclusive monopoly.
6. Centralization of the means of communication and transport in the hands of the state.
7. Extension of factories and instruments of production owned by the state; the bringing into cultivation of waste lands, and the improvement of the soil generally in accordance with a common plan.
8. Equal obligation of all to work. Establishment of industrial armies, especially for agriculture.
9. Combination of agriculture with manufacturing industries; gradual abolition of all the distinction between town and country by a more equable distribution of the populace over the country.
10. Free education for all children in public schools. Abolition of children's factory labor in its present form. Combination of education with industrial production, etc. In place of the old bourgeois society, with its classes and class antagonisms, we shall have an association in which the free development of each is the condition for the free development of all. Part IV: Position of the Communists in Relation to the Various Existing Opposition Parties .. Workingmen of all countries, unite!

*The main idea(s) of this excerpt is...*

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*In your opinion, what might life and society be like if these 10 ideas were implemented?*

**H**istorical Context-

**I**ntended Audience-

**P**urpose-

**P**oint of View-