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| **Major Ideas of the Enlightenment** | | |
| Idea | Thinker | Impact |
| Natural rights-life, liberty, and property | Locke | Fundamental to U.S Declaration of Independence |
| Separation of Powers | Montesquieu | France, United States, and Latin American nations use separation of powers in new constitutions. |
| Freedom of Thought and Expression | Voltaire | Guaranteed in U.S. Bill of Rights and French Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen; European monarchs reduce or eliminate censorship. |
| Religious Freedom | Voltaire | Guaranteed in U.S. Bill of Rights and French Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen; European monarchs reduce persecution. |
| Abolishment of torture | Beccaria | Guaranteed in U.S. Bill of Rights; torture outlawed or reduced in nations of Europe and the Americas. |
| Women’s equality | Wollstonecraft | Guaranteed in U.S. Bill of Rights and French Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen; European monarchs reduce persecution. |
| Social Contract | Rousseau | Some of his ideas set up the fundamental of the U.S. Declaration of Independence |

Comments: