

Hanna Perez

Professor Lyndell O'Hara

HIS114 World Civilization

16 February 2023

Film Response: Enlightenment

I vaguely remember having studied the Enlightenment movement when I was in high school, but when I started listening to the YouTube video, many memories of that time came to my mind; I even found a PowerPoint presentation I made in 2015 about this movement.

For the history of modern societies, the Enlightenment has undoubtedly been one of the most important and significant phenomena not only for the changes it generated at the time but for the legacy that would become an indelible reality for Western societies since then.

This movement meant preaching and disseminating political, scientific, cultural, economic, and social ideas by many innovative and revolutionary thinkers who began to propose the need to end the monarchy.

After listening to the video and reading my PowerPoint notes that I made when I was fifteen years old, I could conclude three things: (1) The Enlightenment is for history, a system of thoughts produced by intellectuals in an environment of autonomy and freedom of individual reason, where each person could educate himself in search of scientific truth. (2) Different social and cultural aspects led the philosophers of the time to be part of this movement, such as the Scientific Revolution, the transformation of the economy, technological evolution, and the discovery of other lands. (3) Many things changed positively in societies as they acquired their own principles and ideals and, little by little, their conceptions about the world and were making their way in all social levels.

There were confrontations, of course, especially with the historically instituted powers but their momentum was irresistible over time.