

***Civics: A Christian Worldview.***  
**You Be the All-Powerful Legislator (20 minutes)**

**TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS/KEY**

**Instructions**

1. **Objective:** Students solidify their understanding of what it would be like to live under a dictator, even when that dictator “only tried to do what was best for the people.”
2. Divide the class into teams of 3-4.
3. Print this page for yourself, and print Page 2 for students.
4. Read the instructions on Page 2 together and tell teams to start! (Give them 10-12 minutes.)
5. When time’s up, teams SWAP PAPERS with another group.
6. Tell the groups, “Answer this question for each law: WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIVE UNDER THIS LAW?” Write “WOULD ACCEPT” or “WOULD HATE” by each one. (Take 3 minutes.)
7. Repeat until all groups have assessed all the other groups’ laws. (Or if you’re short on time, just do 1-2 swaps.)

**Note**

Students will invent things like:

- Mandatory sharing
- Forced jobs
- Banning luxury
- Required kindness
- Equal incomes

**Debrief**

Ask students:

- Why didn’t you like their laws?
- Did they assume they knew what was best for you?
- What did you just discover about Bastiat’s points about legislators? (No doubt students will understand the point: Everyone loves being the molder; nobody likes being the clay.)
- “Do you understand why the Bible limits the legitimate functions of government to threatening people who are considering harming or stealing from others, and punishing them if they do?”

## ***Civics: A Christian Worldview. You Be the All-Powerful Legislator***

You are the wise legislators. Your job is to redesign society so people are virtuous, equal, and happy. Your group must create five laws that will do the following:

- Eliminate greed
- Eliminate laziness
- Eliminate inequality so there are no poor persons
- Promote virtue and morality
- Prevent bad habits

Now, write those laws below!

1. **A law to eliminate greed (write the law right below this line):**
2. **A law to eliminate laziness (write the law right below this line):**
3. **A law to eliminate inequality so there are no poor persons (write the law right below this line):**
4. **A law to promote virtue and morality (write the law right below this line):**
5. **A law to prevent bad habits (write the law right below this line):**

