

- Key Philosophies in the Declaration of Independence | SOL USI. 6b



Key philosophies in the Declaration of Independence were based upon ideas first expressed by European philosophers.

Key Philosophies in the Declaration of Independence

- People have certain “unalienable rights” (rights that cannot be taken away – life, liberty, pursuit of happiness).
- People establish government to protect those rights.
- Government derives power from the people.
- People have a right and a duty to change a government that violates their rights.

Essential Understanding: The Declaration of Independence proclaimed independence from England. It stated that people have natural (inherent) rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.