

- What is Government?
  - Defined
  - Purpose
  - In US
  - In MA
  
- Laws
  - Defined
  - Purpose
  
- Gov't = different
  - Result
  - Reason = “authority”
  - Stems from legitimacy
    - Defined
  
- Type of gov't?
  - Democracy

- *Demos – kratos*
- Direct democracy
- Plato's *Politeia*
  - *Res Publica*
- US gov't = Republic
  - Leaders get “authority”
  - Framers believed
  - Republic = “check”
  - Our “Republic”
  - “Federal”
- In MA = Commonwealth
- Republic functions via “constitutionalism”
  - US Constitution guarantees
- Basic tasks of gov't
  - On national level

- On state/local level
- Limitations = capacity
  - Defined
- In MA
- How gov't decides what to do?
  - “Politics”
    - Defined
  - Derive from political culture
    - Defined
    - “Unwritten Constitution”
  - In US
    - Dominant Culture = Judeo-Christian traditions
    - @ core
    - Personal liberty

— Essence = self-determination

- Respect for individual

— vs. statism

- Equality of opportunity

- Popular Consent

— Values in Conflict