

Social Classes in Pre-Revolutionary France

by Melissa Schultzel Jamieson

First Estate

The Clergy were .5% of the French population. The Catholic Church collected tithes from the rest of the population. The Church gave a donation to the monarchy, but individual members of the clergy were not taxed. The First Estate had one vote in the Estates General.



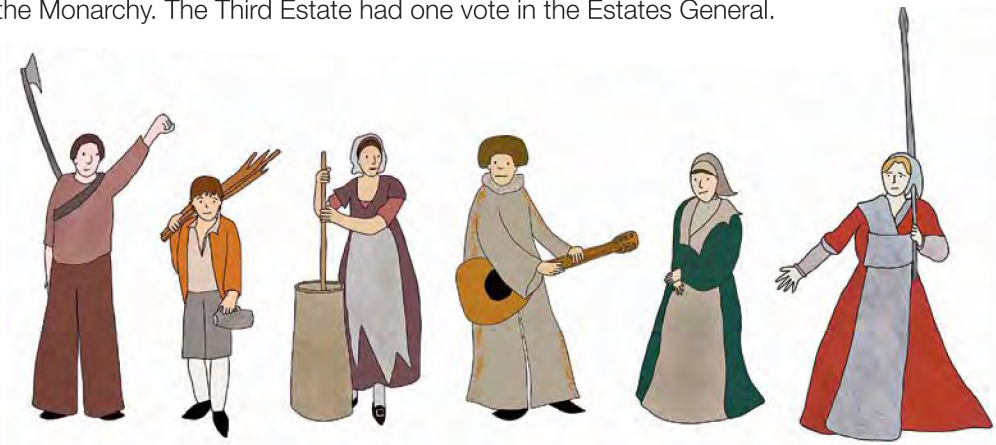
Second Estate

The Nobility were 2% of the French population. Nobles were exempt from paying taxes but owned 20-25% of the land. The Second Estate had one vote in the Estates General.



Third Estate

Everyone else were 97.5% of the French population. They paid taxes and many paid up to 50% of their income to the Monarchy. The Third Estate had one vote in the Estates General.



Citation: Melissa Schultzel Jamieson, "Social Classes in Pre-Revolutionary France," (2018).