

Questions related to Bastiat on the “Great Fiction” of Government

1. What is the strange illusion with respect to government?
2. Describe the process by which one group in society can legally plunder another.
3. According to Bastiat, how widespread is this legal plunder? Quote the text in support.
4. Why does government respond affirmatively when advised to “take from the public”?
5. According to Bastiat, how does the preamble to the new constitution in France compare with the preamble to the U.S. constitution?
6. How are French expectations for government a “source of calamities and revolutions”?
7. Describe the political system that Bastiat favors. Do you agree that this would be best? If so, defend his position. If not, what political system would you prefer and why?