

Socialism vs Capitalism Statement Sort

Directions for the Teacher: Make one copy of this handout for each group of students and then cut on the dotted lines to create statement strips for the activity. Place each set of statement strips into an envelope to distribute to groups during class. Alternatively, as the order is random, you can ask students to cut apart the handout themselves.



The government runs all public services (e.g. transport/health/education).

Individuals have the right to own property and ownership of property is encouraged.

The government does not control what people do with their money.

The means of production (e.g. raw materials, tools, factories) are privately owned.

The means of production (e.g. raw materials, tools, factories) are owned by the government on behalf of the people.

This system prioritises the community over the individual.

Wealth is divided through taxation.

In this system, it's down to each individual to succeed and provide for themselves.

The rights of the individual are championed above all else.

This system can benefit a few people at the expense of the majority.

The government ensures that everyone is in work, has enough to eat, and has somewhere to live.

This system can lead to homogeneity as everyone consumes the same things.

The government is responsible for minimising or eliminating economic inequality.

Unregulated, this system can create social inequality and exploitative working conditions.

Opponents of this system argue that it gives the government too much control over individuals and therefore limits their freedom.

Opponents of this system argue that it gives people who have money an unfair advantage over those who do not.
