

Candidate 1 evidence

	Section 1	
1	Conservatives believe that it is the state's responsibility to maintain the existing order and allow only gradual change, however Socialists seek change and argue for the state to play a key role in changing society by replacing the capitalist economic system.	
	Socialists argue that under the capitalism the existing social and economic order tends to be maintained for the benefit of those who own the means of production.	
	Conservatives disagree with this and believe	

that institutions such as family, church and the class system enable people to understand their place within society. While conservatives ~~are~~ are hostile to change and believe in preserving traditional values, socialists aim for change to occur and strive to replace the capitalist system.

Socialists believe that private property is a key factor leading to inequality and exploitation, whereas conservatives think private property is necessary in order to encourage responsibility. Conservatives believe that the state is expected to protect people's property and not provide support for the less fortunate, whereas socialists believe the state should introduce common ownership and a state controlled command economy. ~~Socialists~~ Through the removal of private

property, a Socialist state would achieve a fairer distribution of society's wealth. However, conservatives believe that the state should provide circumstances where businesses can flourish, and they believe that private property acts as a reward for hard working individuals which generates respect and responsibility. Socialism differs from this because socialists believe all are equal in terms of opportunity and outcome. They argue people should be motivated by moral rather than material incentives. The only way to achieve equality, in socialists' view - is to create a common ownership and command economy.

Socialists have a broadly positive view of human nature and consider people to be social creatures who can experience a

Common humanity - if the state creates the right circumstances. Conservatives disagree and believe that humans are selfish, greedy, dependent and irrational, having a very negative view of human nature. Conservatives also believe that the state must have deterrents such as harsh punishment in order to maintain social order. On the other hand, socialists argue the state can shape human nature by determining the economic structure of society. Socialists have a ~~collectivist~~ collectivist approach and argues that individuals will act for the good of all when cooperation, rather than competition, is promoted. However, conservatives believe that individual freedom is less important than the need for safety and social order, so believe the state has the responsibility to implement and maintain

this order.

Overall, conservatism and socialism have a number of fundamental differences in their views on the role of the state.

While conservatives believe the state exists to maintain order and stability, socialists strive for a progressive state which aims for ~~the~~ equality. Conservatives view the state as an anti-social deterrent, while socialists believe the state exists to promote cooperation and common ownership: