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# **The Emergence of Mass Society**

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Chapter 5 Section 2

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# Focus Question #

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1. Why did the conditions of the the lower classes demand some sort of governmental attention?
  2. How does the government respond to these conditions? Why was it important that they did?
  3. What is the major disparity between the new social classes that Marx would consider a threat? What is the only thing that is happening that prevents a revolution from occurring?
  4. Why is it important the leisure time is experienced?
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# The New Urban Environment

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- The new industrial world had led to the emergence of a mass society in which conditions of the majority-the lower classes-was demanding some sort of governmental attention.



# Problems in the Industrial Society

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- Housing shortages/over crowded quarters.
- The spread of disease
- Public sanitation
- Continues migration from rural areas to cities.



# Government Response

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- Innovations that improve health and sanitation. (Sewage and aqueduct systems)
- Health and sanitation boards.
- Housing boards
- Medical officers
- Building inspectors
- Reservoirs
- Government had to appeal to the masses because of the voters living within the cities.



# Social Structure

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- The Elite
- Made up of 5% of European society.
- Controlled between 30% to 40% of the wealth.
- Bankers, merchants, and industrialists.
- These also included military leaders and government officials.



# Social Structure

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- **The Middle Class**
  - **Two groups**
  - **Upper middle class included; lawyers, Doctors, civil service workers, business managers engineers architects, accountants and chemist.**
  - **The lower middle class included; small shopkeepers, traders, and wealthy farmers.**
  - **Middle class values were strong contribution to society.**
  - **They believed in hard work, churchgoers who believed in Christian morality.**
  - **Responsible for a majority of the prosperity of the period.**
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# Social Structure

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- **The Working Classes**
  - **Made up almost 80% of Europe's population.**
  - **This group included landholding peasants, farm laborers sharecroppers, skilled artisans, semiskilled laborers, and unskilled workers.**
  - **Reformers gained higher wages, better housing, cleaner streets, and a 10 hour work day with a Saturday afternoon off.**
  - **Leisure time becomes important, the lower cost of food and housing allowed the working class the opportunity to consume goods and entertain themselves.**
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