**#16 Guided Notes: The Old Regime (Order) Name:**

1. **The Old Regime**: The social and political system of France. It consisted of three estates. It was a system based on inequality and privilege.
2. **Estates:** Social Classes.
3. All the people of France were divided into **3 estates**.

**First Estate:** Roman Catholic Clergy

Less than **1%** of population

**Owned 10 % of the land** in France.

Provided education/relief to the poor

**2% of income** was owed in **taxes**

 **97% of the Population**

 **3 very different groups**:

1. **Bourgeoisie:** Middle Class=

Richest. Bankers, Factory Owners,

 Merchants, Professionals and Skilled

 Artisans. Well-Educated and believed in

 Enlightenment Ideas like equality and liberty.

 Paid High taxes but had no privileges.

1. **Workers** (Urban Poor): Lived in Cities

 The poorest ofthe three groups. Tradespeople,

 Apprentices, Laborers, Servants. Received low wages,

 were often unemployed and hungry.

1. **Peasants:** Largest group= More than

80% of the population. Paid 50% of their income in dues (nobles), the tithe (tax for church) and taxes (King)

 **Third Estate:**

Everyone Else- Middle

 and Lower Classes

**Second Estate**: Nobility

**2%** of the population

**Owned 20% of the land**

Paid almost **no taxes**.

1. Concerns of Each Estate:
2. Both the First and Second Estate were very concerned with protecting their status (power), privileges and low taxes. They viewed Enlightenment Ideas as dangerous and radical.
3. Many of the Bourgeoisie embraced Enlightenment ideas and resented their lack of influence over a government they paid so much in taxes to. Many were wealthier than nobles but they had no say in the government.
4. The Workers struggled daily to survive. Their #1 concern was the price of bread. When prices rose, they would riot and sometimes attack grain carts and bread shops.
5. Both the Peasants and Workers resented the First and Second Estate for their lack of taxes and social privileges.

What problems do you see with this system? Think about the SAD Cycle and this system would affect it.