

John Locke's Second Treatise

1) [John Locke's Second Treatise on Government, Section 225, 1690](http://www.constitution.org/jl/2ndtr19.htm)

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from The Constitution Society, a link on EDSITEment reviewed [Internet Public Library](#),

In the segment below, Locke explains under what circumstances people have the right to alter their form of government.

225. Secondly: I answer, such revolutions happen not upon every little mismanagement in public affairs. Great mistakes in the ruling part, many wrong and inconvenient laws, and all the slips of human frailty will be borne by the people without mutiny or murmur. But if a long train of abuses, prevarications, and artifices, all tending the same way, make the design visible to the people, and they cannot but feel what they lie under, and see whither they are going, it is not to be wondered that they should then rouse themselves, and endeavour to put the rule into such hands which may secure to them the ends for which government was at first erected, and without which, ancient names and specious forms are so far from being better, that they are much worse than the state of Nature or pure anarchy; the inconveniencies being all as great and as near, but the remedy farther off and more difficult.