

“Our government”

This phrase assumes that a collective exists that has ownership of the government, another collective. Collectives do not exist, only discrete objects exist in reality.

Ownership entails exclusive control, including destruction. Governments use force to prevent its “owners” from doing so.



“We are the government”

This phrase confuses society with government, which is as serious an error as confusing an entire human body with a malignant tumour growing inside of that body.



“The social contract”

A valid contract must be agreed to voluntarily, without coercion or fraud.

The social contract does not meet this standard because the state will initiate the use of force against anyone who does not agree, nor is the state dissolved when it fails to uphold its “contractual obligations.”

How to rebut statism



“Our leader”

**In the case of the state,
it is not just any kind of leader,
but a ruler.**

**No one owns the ruler,
and the ruler falsely claims
to own those who are ruled,
as the ruler claims a right
to exclusive control over
the ruled and has no logically
defensible basis for
doing so.**



“The leader of the free world”

**“The free world” does not exist;
each individual person exists.**

**This phrase speaks of rulers
rather than all types of leaders.**

**Free people do not have rulers;
they rule themselves.**



**“You don’t
have to like
our leaders,
but you should
respect them”**

Respect should be a response to virtue. Ordering the use of initiatory force against people to control them is not virtuous behaviour, therefore it is unworthy of respect.



**“You don’t
have to like
the politician,
but you should
respect the
political office”**

**Political office, like any part of
government, is a violent criminal
institution. Violent criminality
is unworthy of respect.**

How to rebut statism



“Our military”

**If the military is “ours,”
then “we” should be able
to exercise exclusive control.
But “we” can neither
command or dissolve it.**

**It is merely a tool of the ruling
classes to prevent the overthrow
of government and to deter
other rulers elsewhere in the
world who might seek to take
over the state and capture
the tax base for
themselves.**

How to rebut statism



**“We need to
make the
world safe for
democracy”**

**Democracy is two wolves
and a sheep voting on who
gets eaten.**

**This should not be made safe;
it should be made dangerous
by providing sheep the means
to resist the wolves.**

How to rebut statism



“You don’t have to like what the police / military are doing, but you should respect them”

Respect should be a response to virtue. Ordering the use of initiatory force against people is not virtuous, nor is carrying out said orders.

How to rebut statism



“The homeland / our nation”

As only individuals are capable of action, only individuals may rightly own property.

There is no such thing as public property; there is only privately owned property and property which has been stolen or otherwise interfered with by agents of the state.



“National defence / security”

There is no such thing as national security apart from each individual person’s security because there is no such thing as a nation apart from each individual person.

How to rebut statism



“It’s the law”

In a statist society, the laws are a collection of opinions written down by sociopaths who have managed to either win popularity contests or murder their competitors and are enforced at gunpoint by thugs in costumes. The implication of the phrase “it’s the law” is that this is both necessary and proper, rather than inherently illogical and immoral.

How to rebut statism



“Voting is your voice in government”

This statement assumes that there is no voter fraud, that votes are counted correctly, that vote results cannot be altered by courts, and that politicians will do what voters tell them to do. Each of these assumptions has an unfulfilled burden of proof at best, and is demonstrably false on several occasions at worst.

How to rebut statism



“Voting is a civic duty”

A legitimate duty can only come from a legitimate contract. Such a thing does not exist, nor can there be a legitimate duty to perform an immoral act.

Voting is immoral because it helps to impose violent rulers upon peaceful people and gives the appearance of legitimacy to institutions which deserve none.

How to rebut statism



**“If you don’t
vote, you have
no right to
complain”**

People who do not vote are the only ones who can rightly complain. Those who vote either endorse the winning politician and their minions or endorse the system itself if their preferred candidate loses by creating the appearance of legitimacy.

How to rebut statism



“The public good / the good of society”

Society, or “the public,” does not exist. Each individual person exists. As such, there is no such thing as the public good or the good of society. There is only what is good for each individual person.



“For the children”

Those who wield state power subject children to forced indoctrination that leaves them with few marketable skills and restrict the ability of suitable guardians to serve as their parents, nor do they care about children as anything other than a means to shame and guilt people into handing over more liberty and property to the state.

How to rebut statism



“Government is necessary”

This is a positive claim which carries a burden of proof. By itself, this is a claim asserted without logic or evidence and may therefore be dismissed without logic or evidence.



“Anarchy is chaos”

The word “anarchy” comes from Greek, meaning “without rulers,” or more accurately, “without beginning to take the lead.”

It does not mean an absence of order, rules, or structure.

The state, on the other hand, is chaos plus organisation.



**“Taxes are
the price for
a civilised
society”**

**Taxes are the price for failing
to create a civilised society
based on voluntary solutions,
and the degree of taxation
corresponds to the
degree of failure.**



“Paying taxes is a civic duty”

Taxation is immoral because it violates the non-aggression principle, private property rights, and freedom of association.

There can be no legitimate duty to comply with immorality.



“We owe it to ourselves”

This would make one both a creditor and a debtor in the same transaction.

This is a contradiction, therefore it is false.



**“We’re going
to hold them
accountable”**

**This is contrary to the nature
of the state.**

**The state apparatus allows
some people to do what is
ordinarily forbidden for anyone
else to do. Thus, the objective
is to avoid responsibility
for the commission
of crimes.**

How to rebut statism



**“Who will build
the roads?”**

**“If we free the slaves, who will
pick the cotton?”**

It does not matter.

**What matters is that slavery
is morally indefensible.**

**So it is with government
and who will provide services
in its absence.**

How to rebut statism

