

# Are Hobbes' Ideas on Statecraft Truly Original?

## A Comparison between Mozi and Hobbes



### INTRODUCTION

Given the shared viewpoint between Hobbes and Mozi regarding the rationale behind the establishment of the state - both asserting its emergence as a mechanism to mitigate the moral chaos of a disorderly community through the rule of a strong leader - and recognizing Mozi's writings dating back two millennia before Hobbes, a pertinent question emerges:

#### RESEARCH QUESTION

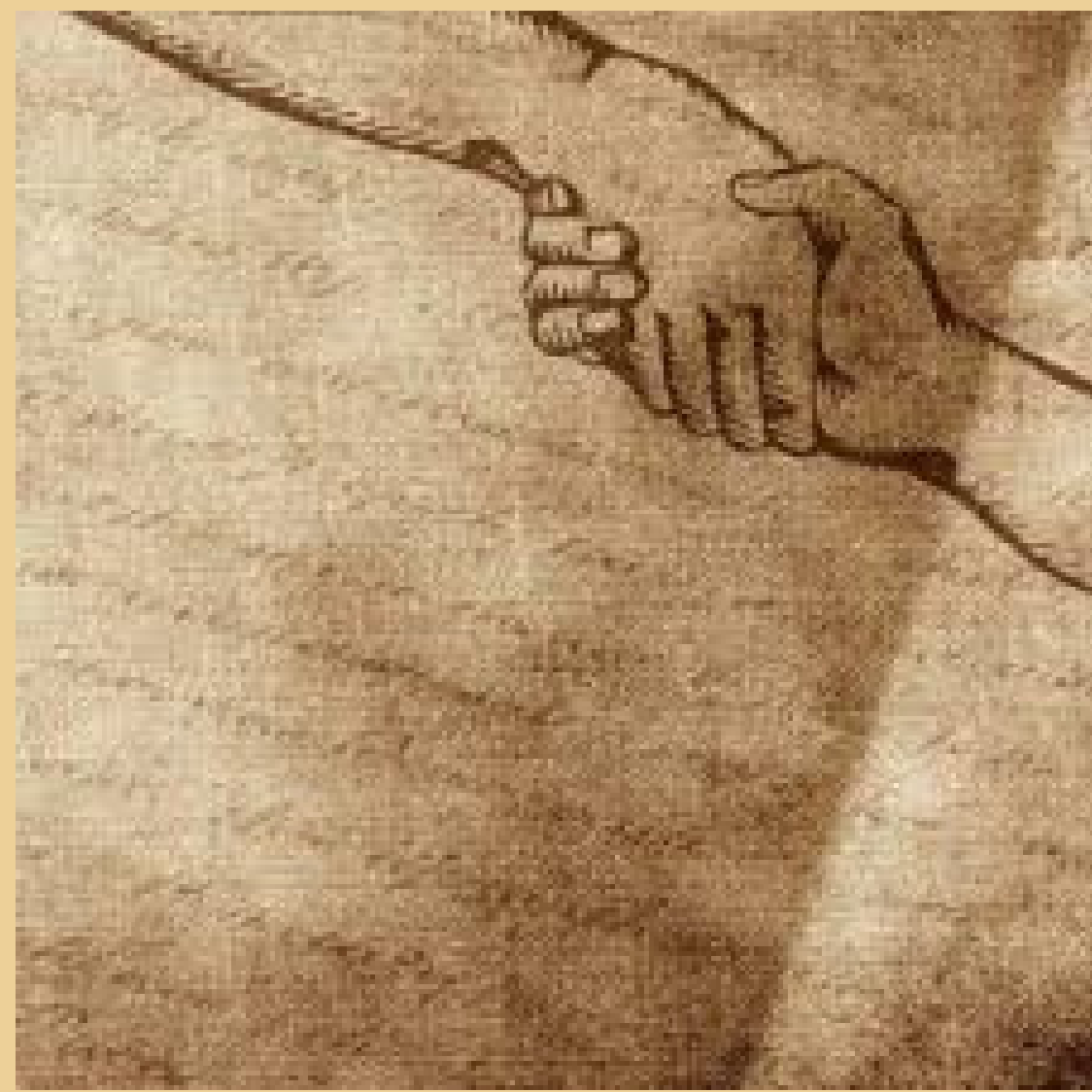
Is it plausible that Hobbes' political ideas aren't as original as usually perceived?

#### OBJECTIVE

To ascertain the originality of Hobbes as a thinker through a comparative exploration of theoretical ideas.

### RESULTS

- Hobbes' metaphysics is original; the Mohists' implicit monistic materialism notwithstanding.
- Hobbes' ethics remaining deontological as opposed to the Mohists consequentalism.
- Hobbes develops a social contract based upon the individual; the Mohists are communitarians.



### CONCLUSION

Although certain similarities exist, Hobbes remains an

**ORIGINAL THINKER**

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