GRÁINNE MCKEEVER
IN DISCUSSION WITH
PROF. PETER STONE TCD

POLITICAL SCIENCE

ROBERT NOZICK (1938-2002)

FACTS....
Where was he from....
What was his field of study...
What historical issues influenced his work...

Why is his work of importance...

NAME TWO OF NOZICK’S MOST FAMOUS WORKS

Prof. Nozick was a libertarian, he believed in radically limited government interference, what is his argument for this...

Explain your understanding of the term “the night watchman state”...

John Rawls was Nozick’s mentor, what was the difference in their approach to justice, and which perspective do you agree most with?
Jeremy Bentham had a different perspective of justice, which approached it from the angle of consequences for all as opposed to an individual rights-based approach.

Below is a sign that Nozick thought was just. What was his rationale?

ADAM SMITH (1723-1790) WAS A SCOTTISH ECONOMIST WHO WROTE “THE WEALTH OF NATIONS”. HE IS CONSIDERED BY MANY TO BE THE FATHER OF CAPITALISM. WHAT DOES THE TERM “THE INVISIBLE HAND” REFER TO?

Ireland has sold housing stock to what some consider to be “Vulture Funds”. Explain what that terms means, discuss how Ireland came to sell the housing stock to these funds and debate the justice of this situation, what would Nozick think?

The term affirmative action is a practice or policy of favouring individuals belonging to groups known to have been discriminated against previously; positive discrimination. Are there any instances of this in Ireland, it is just? Debate.