

## **SUGGESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION PLATO'S REPUBLIC**

1. According to Plato, what is "virtue," "justice," "goodness"? How would you define these? Do you think there is anyone definition of each which we would all subscribe?
2. Describe Plato's ideal 'society, providing textual references for support. What is your vision of an ideal society? Does your vision embody any Platonic ideals? How does your vision differ from Plato's?
3. Specifically, how would you alter our society to make it more just? How is it unjust when compared to Plato's views of justice?
4. According to Plato, what is the "good life"? (Textural references, please.) What is your vision of the good life?
5. What were Plato's views on the arts? How would you agree or disagree? What do you think is Plato's attitude about Homer? What do you make of that? ,;."
6. Do you agree that the State can be harmonious if each individual works at what he or she has a natural aptitude for and is trained in? What are your natural aptitudes? 'When did you discover these? Of what significance are they?
7. Do you agree, with Plato that a thing is not necessarily good just because we want it?
8. Was Plato's method effective, that is, do you think you can discern what justice of the individual soul might be by examining justice with the city?
9. What was Plato's view of public opinion?
10. What do you believe are the most important ideas in Plato's Republic? Which have t relevance to you or to our society? Why?