The French Revolution

Nic Brown

[Name of the Institution]

The French Revolution was an unprecedented historic event in 18th century when the French people overthrew the French monarch and started to rule the government. It started on July 14th, 1789, when the revolutionaries took control of the Bastille Castle (McPhee, 2016). It was abruptly end in 1799 when Napoleon Bonaparte, a Corscian by birth, ended the subsequently established government and usurped power. The French Government remained in a state of continuous disorder during the revolution. A small ruling group in the French Estate General soon overpowered the politics of the country. They altered the name of the Estate General many times over the course of the Revolution, finally settling on the title of “National Convention”. The most renown phase of the French Revolution is known as the Reign of Terror (Wright, 2016). During this period, a lawyer named Maximillian Robespierre was recognized as the de-facto leader of the preceding body called “National Convention and the Committee of Public Safety”. Anyone who was even slightly suspected of treason was executed by “guillotine”, which was dubbed the national razor. A lot of people were executed including the last reigning royal couple. Robespierre's even executed many of his political rivals (Johnson, 2019). The French Revolution completely transformed the basic structure of France. It ended the feudalistic grip of the French monarchy and took away political power from the Church. It gave completely unheard and new ideas and concepts to Europe, including freedom and civil rights for the common folk as well as the granting rights to slaves and women. It is true that the revolution died with the reign of Napoleon, the reforms and ideas it inspired continued to linger on. These new concepts continued to shape Europe, aiding in foundation of many of the current Europe's new modern-day governments.

End Notes

Johnson, S. M. (2019). *Robespierre: A Self-Destructed Revolutionary.*

McPhee, P. (2016). *Liberty or Death: The French Revolution.* Oxford University Press.

Wright, D. (2016). *Revolution and Terror in France 1789-1795.*