

**People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Ministry of Higher Education
University of mehammed khider biskra**

GOOD DEMOCRACY

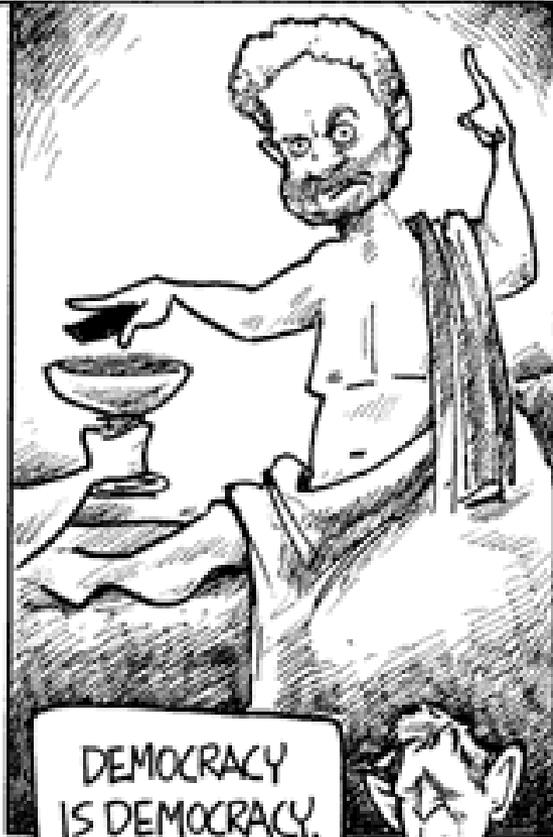
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Foundations of Democracy

Today, there are more democratic forms of government in the world than any other style of government?

399 BC...ATHENIANS VOTE TO PUT SOCRATES TO DEATH FOR HIS TEACHINGS...

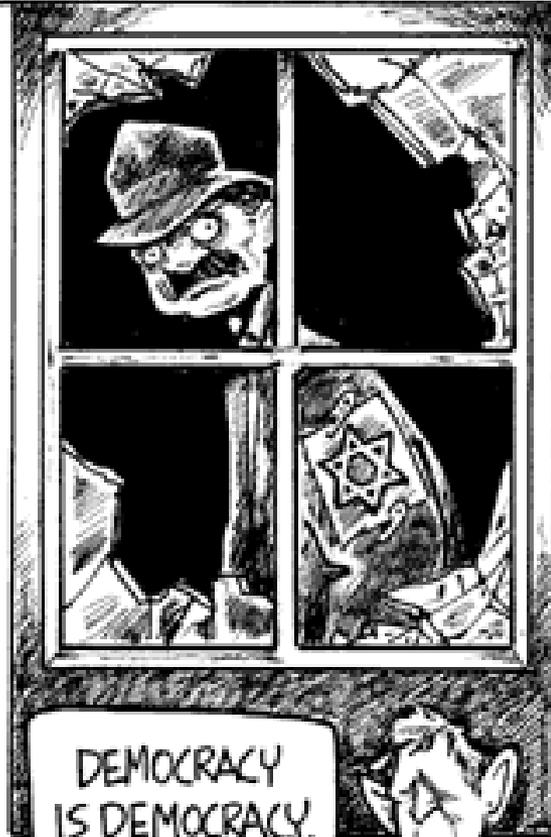


DEMOCRACY IS DEMOCRACY.



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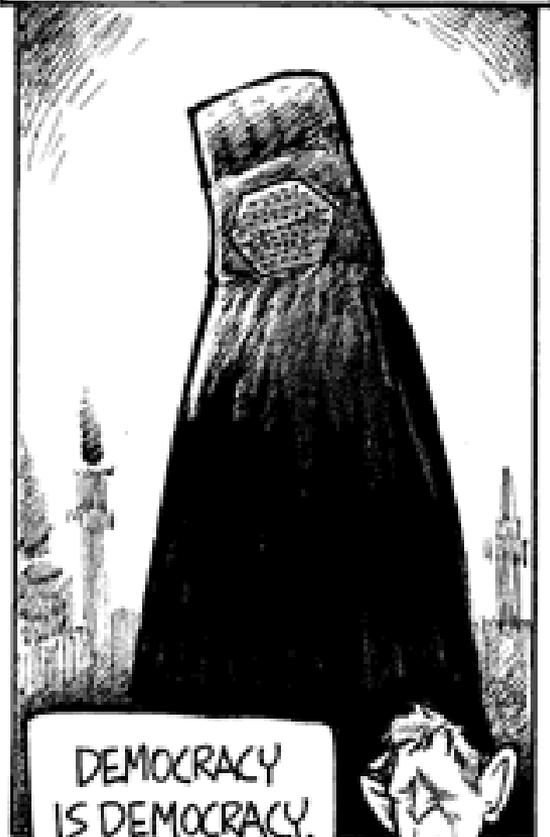
1933...THE GERMAN CONGRESS VOTES TO GIVE HITLER AUTHORITARIAN POWERS...



DEMOCRACY IS DEMOCRACY.



2005...WHAT IF IRAQIS VOTE FOR A FUNDAMENTALIST ISLAMIC STATE?



DEMOCRACY IS DEMOCRACY.



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Types of democracies

Types of democracies

Direct democracies

Laws may be made directly by all citizens

Example: town halls where public citizens vote on public issues

Representative democracies

People elect representatives to conduct the business of government for them.

Basic Principles of Democracy

1- Give people the opportunity to make choices

2- Recognize the dignity and worth of each person

3- Promote respect for the law

4- Protect the rights of the minority

5- Produce policies that promote the

What is government?

Government is made up of the **people** and **institutions** put in place to run or govern a country, state, province, territory or community.

The role of government is to make decisions and enforce laws for the people it is responsible for.

The purpose of government is to protect its **citizens** and provide **services**.

How do governments compare?

Governments around the world differ from one another and they can be compared by considering the following questions:

- a) Who has access to power?
- b) How do those leaders get to be in power?
- c) What types of rights and freedoms are given to citizens?

Dictatorship

A **dictatorship** = one person (a **dictator**) has complete political power

Often comes to power through a military takeover (also known as a coup d'état).

Power is then maintained without the consent of the people through a **one-party state** where political opposition is forbidden.

Dictatorships generally restrict individual civil and political rights.

Oligarchy

An **oligarchy** = a few people have power.

Political power is concentrated in the hands of a small group of people, usually the rich.

Oligarchs will exercise power primarily to serve their own interests.

An oligarchy can also be a dictatorship.

Democracy

A **democracy** = all citizens have access to power. Power is shared by all citizens and a majority of the population is included in political decision-making.

Citizens elect people to represent them in government and make decisions on their behalf. This is called a **representative democracy**.

Citizens may choose to run for political office. The people have protected **rights** and **freedoms**.

Quotes about Democracy

“I understand democracy as something that gives the weak the same chance as the strong.” (Mohandas Gandhi)

“The best argument against democracy is a five-minute conversation with the average voter.” (Winston Churchill)

“I am a Canadian, free to speak without fear, free to worship in my own way, free to stand for what I think right, free to oppose what I believe wrong, or free to choose those who shall govern my country. This heritage of freedom I pledge to uphold for myself and all mankind.” (John G. Diefenbaker)

Final Thoughts

- What does democracy mean to you?
- Do you think there is a better form of government?
- Is it possible for democracy to fail?
- What does it mean if citizens do not participate in their democracy?