

Arguments for and arguments against democracy politics essay



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There are many benefits or arguments that are for democracy; since the ample population is given rights and autonomy. A very important characteristic that leads to being a benefit of democracy is that it allows citizen from all walks of life to participate actively in the political proceedings of their homeland. However, there are arguments against (disadvantages of) democracy also. One of the main defects in the idea of democracy is that the authority given to the masses can also be distorted, made improper use of and become the tyranny of the ample/ majority. This can become a double-crossing issue in democracy.

Benefits of Democracy

It has been noted that most countries in today's era believe in the ideology of democracy and in its various theories. Some of the most powerful and advanced countries believe in democracy and follow democratic peace theory. Followers of democracy also argue that it is better to have the tyranny of the majority rather than tyranny of the minority. A research by

Diplomatic Changes in the Government

Democracy can offer adjustments in government without antagonism. In a democratic government, power can be moved from one party to another through the method of elections. The authority that is the hands of citizens or general public of a nation makes the decisions for its ruling power.

Avoidance of Monopoly

In addition, any government is restricted to an election term after which it has to compete against other parties to recover supremacy. This mean avoids monopoly of the controlling party. The reigning establishment has to

make sure it operates effectively for its citizens as it cannot continue being the power unless the people re-elect the same government to come to term again.

A Sense of Appreciation

This instills a sense of accountability towards the people. The ruling party owes their triumph in winning the elections and coming to authority to the citizens of the country. This brings about a sense of appreciation towards the people. This appreciation can help play a role in the government's motivation to function for citizens as it is because of the votes and trust of the citizens that the party has power to rule.

Sense of Contribution

An important 'for-argument' of democracy is that the people attain a sense of involvement in the process of choosing their administration for their Nation. They acquire the opportunity to speak out their observations and views by the process of voting. This gives rise to a feeling of belonging to the people and they also feel as if they belong to the society and can contribute towards its betterment.

Having an upper hand during war time:

A leading research by Ajin Choi (affiliated by the International Studies Quarterly 2004, Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea), says that democracies execute better in the time of war than non-democracies, that is they are more likely to win wars than non-democracies. The author (Ajin Choi) points this chiefly to the simplicity of the policies, and the constancy of

their inclinations, due to which they are better able to deal with their partners.

Avoidance of famine:

Followers of democracy quite freely quote the famous economist, Amartya Sen, who believed that no operating democracy has ever managed to damage a large scale famine to affect its people.

Disadvantages of Democracy:

Until quite recently, conformist beliefs have believed that economic progress or development, predictably and with rapidness leads to democracy. Even though reality does show that almost all of the developed and rich countries of the world are democratic. But reality also shows that, the relationship between economic development and democracy is actually quite weak. The increasing number of prosperous non-democratic countries advocates that great wealth single-handedly doesn't involuntarily direct to more political liberalization. This is proved by the economic success of China and other non- democratic states in Asia.

Wrong choice can be made

In democratic countries, it is the ordinary person who has the ultimate right to decide their parliament and their current powers to be. Also all people are not conscious of the political circumstances of their nation. The people may not also be up to date of the political issues in their country. This can lead to a wrong decision of voting to the wrong party by the citizens.

Hitler was rightly elected through democratic elections; though later he turned into a Fascist. This shows how a political leader could play with the emotions of people into blackmailing them to vote for him, ultimately misleading them into making a wrong choice.

Government May Lose focus

The government is bound to changes and adjustments once they are elected or re-elected, it may operate with a short-term purpose. As governments have to go through the method of election once their tenure ends and have to re-elected, they may lose focus on operating efficiently for the people and give attention to winning the elections.

Masses Have Power

Since majority has power- there can be a tyrannical rule of the majority which ultimately works against the minority. It has been proved by a research made by World Bank that though USA is a popular democratic country with loads of power and is one the most affluent and developed country, domestic inequality is largely seen. A huge countrywide score on the human development index (HDI) is partnered by the differences in health, education, and income amongst the various ethnic sets. In USA, almost every state has an infant mortality which is greater for the African-Americans than for local white people. Citizens might vote in favor of a party under pressure of the masses, because of the influence of people around them and because of their opinions, and end up making the wrong judgments.

Though democracy tries to prevent discrimination and supports collaboration and harmonization. It also slows things down, stops those in power from committing an action that is against the majority's wish.