

# Democracy and Dictatorship: Key differences

## DEMOCRACY

In a democracy the leader of the party with the most votes is in control, but they still have to answer to their political party, and the voters.

In a democracy political parties represent different points of view and compete for the votes of the electorate. In a democracy political power is secured by winning a fair election.

In a democracy newspapers are free to print the truth and can criticise the government when mistakes are made or if there's disagreement.

In a democracy there's usually less control over the films and books people can enjoy.

In a democracy the government has less control over how people spend their time and what they believe. People are free to join clubs, political parties and other groups.



## Dictatorship

In a dictatorship there's just one leader who has total control over the party and the country. Often propaganda, as well as genuine support, will paint them as the people's hero.

In a dictatorship the government tightly controls all aspects of the state and will often ban or tightly control groups and meetings.

A dictatorship completely disregards the rights of individual citizens. The government and state will try to control all citizens through laws, police, spying and force. The government and state is the most important thing to a dictatorship.

In a dictatorship there is only one party - all opposition is destroyed and banned. Totalitarian states don't allow opposition or elections.

The government in a dictatorship controls every element of people's lives, including radio, cinema and newspapers.