



Democracy is the worst system devised by the wit of man, except for all the others.

- Winston Churchill

As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy. - Abraham Lincoln

If you tell someone in Toronto that you think freedom and democracy are wonderful, they give you a strange look, as if you are raving about how nice oxygen is. - Jan Wong (*Red China Blues*, 1996)

Democracy does not guarantee equality of conditions; it only guarantees equality of opportunity. - Irving Kristol

We are one of the oldest democracies in the world – 152 years without civil war or coup d'état. Look around at our allies. Compare.

- John Ralston Saul, March 2000

Democracy is based upon the conviction that there are extraordinary possibilities in ordinary people. - Harry Emerson Fosdick

Democracy is not something you believe in or a place to hang your hat, but it's something you do. You participate. If you stop doing it, democracy crumbles. - Abbie Hoffman

A democracy is nothing more than mob rule, where fifty-one percent of the people may take away the rights of the other forty-nine. - Thomas Jefferson

The idea of democracy was an American import into Canada, without which we would still be governed by the Family Compact. A healthy society takes good ideas wherever it can find them. - Michael Bliss, Canadian historian

The minority is sometimes right; the majority always wrong.

- George Bernard Shaw

Democracy does not create strong ties between people. But it does make living together easier. - Alexis de Tocqueville

A democrat need not believe that the majority will always reach a wise decision. He should however believe in the necessity of accepting the decision of the majority, be it wise or unwise, until such a time that the majority reaches another decision. - Bertrand Russell

Democracy is the recurrent suspicion that more than half of the people are right more than half of the time. - E.B. White

As long as the differences and diversities of mankind exist, democracy must allow for compromise, for accommodation, and for the recognition of differences. - Eugene McCarthy

My notion of democracy is that under it the weakest shall have the same opportunities as the strongest. - Mahatma Gandhi

In matters of conscience, the law of majority has no place. - Mahatma Gandhi

There is no reason to believe that there is one law for families and another for nations. - Mahatma Gandhi

