Democracy... is a charming form of government, full of variety and disorder; and dispensing a sort of equality to equals and unequals alike.
- Plato, Republic Book VIII

The highest measure of democracy is neither the "extent of Freedom" nor the “extent of equality,” but rather the highest measure of participation.
- A. de Benoist

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

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

Tyranny and despotism can be exercised by many, more rigorously, more vigorously, and more severely, than by one.
- Andrew Johnson

If liberty and equality are chiefly to be found in democracy, they will be best attained when all persons alike share in the government to the utmost.
- Aristotle

Democracy is when the indigent [the poor], and not the men of property, are the rulers.
- Aristotle

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 means decision by those concerned.
- Carl-Friedrich von Weizsaecker

In order to become the master, the politician poses as the servant.
- Charles de Gaulle

Politics ought to be the part-time profession of every citizen who would protect the rights and privileges of free people and who would preserve what is good and fruitful in our national heritage.
- Dwight D. Eisenhower
Only the educated are free.
- Epictetus

Fifty-one percent of a nation can establish a totalitarian regime, suppress minorities and still remain democratic.
- Erik von Kuehnelt-Leddihn

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

The cure for the evils of democracy is more democracy.
- H.L. Mencken

It is not always the same thing to be a good man and a good citizen.
- Aristotle

Our constitution does not copy the laws of neighbouring states; we are rather a pattern to others than imitators ourselves. Its administration favours the many instead of the few; this is why it is called a democracy. If we look to the laws, they afford equal justice to all in their private differences; if no social standing, advancement in public life falls to reputation for capacity, class considerations not being allowed to interfere with merit; nor again does poverty bar the way, if a man is able to serve the state, he is not hindered by the obscurity of his condition.
- Thucydides

The argument seems to show that, whether in oligarchies or in democracies, the number of the governing body, whether the greater number, as in a democracy, or the smaller number, as in an oligarchy, is an accident due to the fact that the rich everywhere are few, and the poor numerous.
- Aristotle