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Course

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Democracy and inequality

Democracy is a rule for the people of the people by the people. In the world today, almost every country is a democratic state. Democracy, equality and human rights go hand in hand.

However, the concept of democracy is not as perfectly instituted as it should be. Many times, democracy is undermined especially when the aspect of wealth is considered. The aspect of income and wealth inequality challenges populations to look at political institutions in another way. This essay attempts to discuss the aspect of democracy with relation to income and wealth inequality in detail. The essay focuses on the American system and cites ideas of other people, such as ^MMartin Luther King ^Jjunior besides the concepts discussed in the textbook. The sources have however been cited accordingly, as per the instructed format of citation. ?

More often than not, mental concepts are responsible for disempowering others. For instance, during colonial times in India, the Indians outnumbered the British colonialists with over one hundred thousand to one. However, due to their inferiority complex, and their concepts of self-powerlessness, they allowed the British to rule over them for a considerably long time. Their mental concepts were fueled by many factors, one of them being the wealth inequality that was present during those days. The British controlled the entire economy. This shows just how much

a people financially insecure; agree for inequality to take over them. In most cases, the poor in the economy ^{are} is always the subjects of lack of democracy. In the colonial era, democracy was a less considered factor.

Reword this sentence →

Economic historians have argued that the simple speculations that the democracy provides also leads to wealth inequality. The models of democracy see to it that the ruling class is often the wealthy in the economy. The subjects or the ones who are ruled are always the poor in the society. History speculates that this state of events is what leads to the failure of democracy in many states. However, if societies can be divided along cleavages, rather than wealth, there can be the adoption of wealth equalizing policies. ^{? Sentence Makes No Sense - reword -} Wealth is equalizing policies; however, fail because as stated earlier, the democratic processes are captured by the rich, who occupy the ruling class (Cohen et al. 12).

The aspect of democracy being undermined by wealth and income inequality was not only prevalent in the olden eras. Most recently, ^{D.L.} Martin Luther King ^{Jr} attempted to address this issue before he died. ^{He} ~~Luther King~~ exposed many societal evils. ^{Dr King} He argued that the aspect of racism, which is an injustice, was very much fueled by wealth inequality (King Jr 180). Analyzing this concept, the black Americans, who made up of most of the discriminated population also made up most of the poor population (Purdy, 56). The American system of the day acted to promote wealth inequality such that the black population became poorer and poorer while the white population became richer and richer. ^{D.L.} ~~Martin Luther~~ King argued that American ^{was} heading ^{into} to a situation whereby there would be two Americas; one for the white and wealthy and the other one for the black poor (King Jr 183). This issue is what fueled the social injustices and democratic failures that characterized the American society of the day.

(an East African country). This state of affairs is sadly dictated by the economic power of the specific countries, proving again that democracy and wealth inequality are directly related (Piketty 49). Third world countries make up of the most countries that are currently experiencing conflicts and warfare, a result of lack of democracy.

The ideas of democracy and inequality are very important since they challenge us to look at our political systems differently; in that they open our eyes. Naturally, people live thinking that just because it is the 21st century, their political systems are very good and jut. However, looking at wealth inequality and democracy, one thinks otherwise. These ideas reveal that our political institutions are one of the contributing factors to lack of democracy with regard to wealth inequality. Ideally, our political systems should strive to promote democracy regardless of aspects such wealth. However, when one closely analyses this issue, this is not the case.

Conclusively, the main argument is that democracy and wealth inequality are directly related. As the essay has observed, the most democratic societies are the most economically stable societies. In the same way, the poorest societies make up of the most societies that lack in democracy. *Taking a closer look* In the same way, at a personal level, individuals who are financially stable are treated best in the society. In some countries, this aspect of wealth influences the law. The rich class seems to be somehow above the law while the poor populations face the full wrath of the law. Some governments have displayed attributes that have proven this concept to be true. In pre-civil war America, the government upheld the concept of slavery simply because the oppressed, who were the slaves, seemed inferior in almost all aspects, including financially. This aspect has continued to haunt America, with racism and police brutality always targeting the populations which are economically weak. Therefore, it is very valid to argue that democracy is best served to the wealthy; the economically weak often face injustices which they ought not to face.

Contrary to the common belief that elections promote democracy, there are some historians who have argued that in a way, elections undermine democracy. This especially manifests itself in the sense that the owners of the votes are usually common citizens, and the recipients of the votes are usually the wealthy ruling class. This fact challenges the very definition of democracy; a rule for the people by the people.

Over the last three decades, inequality has been on the rise. It has also been a persuasive issue in the last national election in the United States. On one side, income inequality is usually a non-issue in such a market economy whereby there will always be those who win and those who lose. In such markets where individuals have the right to make their own decisions and garner the rewards of what they have chosen, it is obvious that some will succeed while others will fail (Kopczuk 53). Also, the aspect of us having different natural endowments sees to it that this notion of ^{equality?} equity is not achieved. Some individuals with certain unique capabilities succeed more than those who do not have the capabilities. This is one of the explanations as to why we have the rich and the poor in the society (Kopczuk 67). With such an imbalanced society, it is apparent that democracy will not prevail. The classes of people who succeed are often exposed to more opportunities than others.

In the world today, there are three classifications of nations, about their financial capabilities. There are the first world countries, the second world countries and finally, the third world countries. The first world countries are often the most financially capable, and this includes the likes of the ^uunited ^sstates and Britain while the second world countries come second in rank, he ^{Such} likes India. Third world countries are the last in rank. They include poor African and Asian states. Democratically, the first world countries show a higher level of democracy than the third world countries, for instance, it is right to argue that the ^uunited ^sstates are more democratic than Kenya

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