

Democracy and Equality

Democracy ... not only tolerates inequality, it fairly revels in it.

Mueller (1992: 989)

A store clerk has the same weight in an election as the head of a big corporation or a columnist for the *Washington Post*, but it would be absurd to suggest they are remotely equal in their ability to affect and influence government policy.

Mueller (1992: 988)

One's concern with the ethics of means and ends varies inversely with one's personal interest in the issue.

Alinsky (1971: 26)

Political realists see the world as it is: an arena of power politics moved primarily by perceived immediate self-interests, where morality is rhetorical rationale for expedient action and self-interest.

Alinsky (1971: 12-13)

When I see that the right and the means of absolute command are conferred on any power whatever, be it called a people or a king, an aristocracy or a democracy, a monarchy or a republic, I say there is a germ of tyranny, and I seek to live elsewhere, under other laws.

De Tocqueville (1945: 71)

..democratic communities have a natural taste for freedom; left to themselves, they will seek it, cherish it, and view any privation of it with regret. But for equality their passion is ardent, insatiable, incessant, invincible. They will endure poverty, servitude, barbarism, but they will not endure aristocracy.

De Tocqueville (1945: 64)