

Seven Principles of Totalitarianism

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1. **Totalitarian States are characterized by single party political systems.** Party membership is limited to persons willing to be unquestionably loyal to the party leaders. Party interests and control encompass all aspects of the society.
2. **Totalitarian systems tend to fall to the control of single leaders.** These leaders appear to be superhuman.
3. Totalitarian regimes are **characterized by a commitment to a specific ideology.** The ideology serves the state by defining the past, explaining the present and predicting the future. It establishes **guidelines for remolding society in the image held by the rulers.**
4. A totalitarian state **seeks to subordinate all social institutions to the control of the state** and thereby remove all possible challengers to its control. **No human activity is without interest to totalitarian rulers.** To control the behavior of its citizens, totalitarian regimes **recognize no limits to the means by which their ends are achieved.**
 - A. Totalitarian systems attempt - and succeed to a degree - to **direct the behavior and thoughts of their citizens by maintaining control over all sources of information.**
 - B. Totalitarian states seek to force **conformity on its citizens and subordinate all human activity to its control.**
 - C. Totalitarian regimes **will use any techniques - physical or psychological to achieve absolute control over society.**
5. The type of **totalitarianism which develops in a country is conditioned primarily by the nation's unique historical experience.**
6. Totalitarianism is a political, social, and economic **system which uses any means available to subject the individual to the goals and leadership of the state.**
7. All societies cope with the problems of individual freedom versus public control. **No contemporary society can be judged to be either completely free or completely totalitarian.**