

Can the United States Become a Dictatorship?



Journal Activity

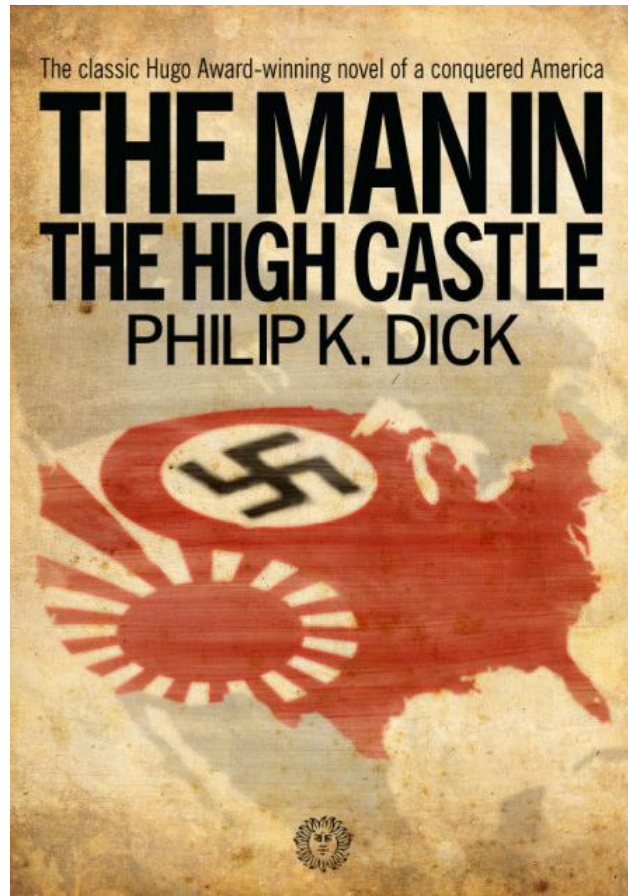


Based on what we have learned (Soviet Union, North Korea, Italy, Germany, V for Vendetta), what seems to be common themes between the various dictatorships/totalitarian states?

What can you do to prevent something like that from happening in our country? And how?

*Write at least 2 paragraphs for credit

The Man in the High Castle



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzayf9GpXCI>





**JAPANESE
PACIFIC STATES**



SAN FRANCISCO

NEUTRAL ZONE

CANON CITY

GREAT NAZI REICH



NEW YORK

Totalitarian



Communism

Socialism

Liberalism

Conservatism



Nationalism/
Fascism



**LEFT
WING**

CENTRE

RIGHT WING

totalitarianism

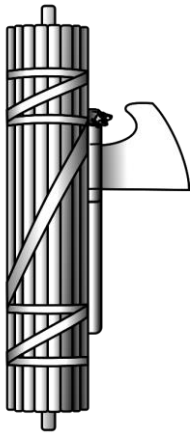
total
all

-ian/-an
Belonging to, or
part of a certain
profession

-ism
Idea, a state, policy

A political idea where the government takes total, centralized state control of every aspect of life

fascism



fasces

Ancient Roman
symbol for
power/authority

-ism

Idea, a state, policy

A political idea that glorifies the state and nation and the state has control over every aspect of life

Nazism

Shortened
form of
“National
Socialist”

-ism
Idea, a state, policy

German version of fascism + racism + antisemitism

Hatred/Prejudice against
Jews

Key Traits of Totalitarianism

Description

Dictatorship and One-Party Rule

- Exercises absolute authority
- Dominates the government

Dynamic Leader

- Helps unite people toward meeting shared goals or common vision
- Encourages people to offer unconditional loyalty and support
- Becomes symbol of the government

Key Traits	Description	
Ideology (Set of Beliefs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Justifies government actions• Glorifies the actions of the state	
State Control over All Aspects of Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business• Family• Labor• Youth groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing• Religion• Education• Arts

Key Traits	Description
State Control over the Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demands total obedience to authority and personal sacrifice for the good of the state• Denies basic liberties
Dependence on Modern Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relies on mass communication (radio, news, loudspeakers) to spread propaganda• Builds up advanced military weapons
Organized Violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uses force, such as police terror, to crush all opposition• Targets certain groups, such as minorities and political opponents, as enemies

10 Steps to Dictatorship/Fascism

1. Invoke an external and internal threat
2. Establish secret prisons/gulags
3. Develop a paramilitary force/thug caste
4. Surveil ordinary citizens
5. Arbitrarily detain and release citizens

10 Steps to Dictatorship/Fascism

6. Infiltrate citizens' groups
7. Target key individuals
8. Restrict the press
9. Cast criticism as “espionage” and dissent as “treason”
10. Subvert the rule of law

September 11 Attacks

Four coordinated terrorist attacks by **al-Qaeda** attacked symbolic landmarks

- Two crashed the World Trade Center in NYC
- One crashed into the Pentagon
- One, aimed at Washington D.C., crashed into a field in Pennsylvania
- 2,996 people died



9/11 Legacy: Torture,
rape & 'war of no
boundaries'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PG5z6HxfzvM>

Al-Qaeda

Extremist Islamic militant organization

- Free Muslim countries from foreign influences
- Christian-Jewish alliance seeks to destroy Muslims



War on Terror (2001 — Now)

Bush declares global struggle to destroy terrorist groups and its supporters

- Taliban
- al-Qaeda
- Iraq

Has it been effective?

Obama changes tactic to target specific groups

- ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant)



terrorism

Fear, frighten

-ism

Idea, policy

Idea of use of violence or threatened use of violence in order to achieve political or religious aim

Department of Homeland Security

Created after 9/11

- Protect the U.S. from terrorist attacks, man-made accidents, and natural disasters
- To prepare for, prevent, and respond to domestic emergencies, especially terrorism

What does homeland security even mean???



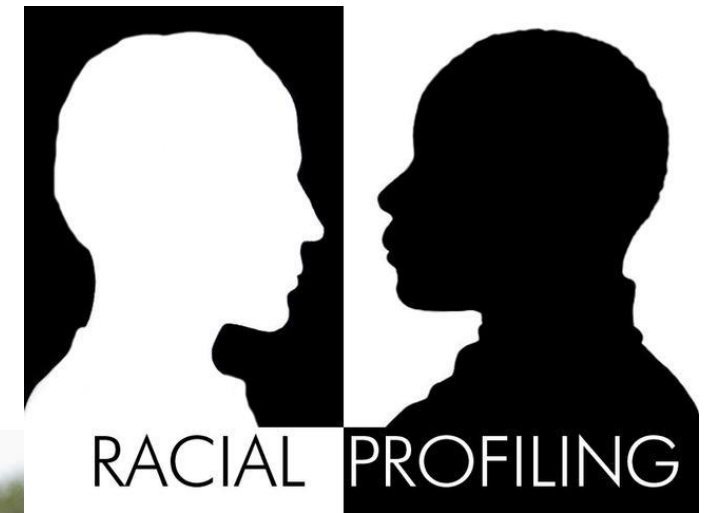
Racial Profiling

Suspecting or targeting a person of a certain race based on a stereotype about their race

- Constitutionality challenged

Since 9/11, reports of increased profiling at airports, targeting people who appear to be Muslim or Middle Eastern

2010 USA Today poll: Many Americans are in favor of more intensive security check for people who fit a terrorist profile based on age, ethnicity, and gender.



Japanese Internment (1942 - 1946)

During WWII, US forcibly put 110,000 – 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry in internment camps

- Executive Order 9066

Suspected Japanese of disloyalty and being spies for the Empire of Japan

In 1988, the government apologized and offered reparations of \$20,000 to each survivor



USA PATRIOT Act and Surveillance

Strengthened security controls and surveillance powers of the government

- Huge controversy

Terrorist Surveillance Program (2001 — 2007)

Monitored phone calls, text messages, Internet activity, and any other communication of people suspected of terrorism, without warrant

- Huge controversy
- Replaced with PRISM



Intelligence Community

16 separate US government agencies to gather intelligence

Edward Snowden Controversy

In 2013, former CIA contractor leaked classified information about global surveillance programs by **NSA** and **Five Eyes** (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, UK, and US) with help from telecommunications companies and Europe

- HUGE controversy
- Now in Russia as an asylum



“We don’t have a domestic spying program. There is no spying on Americans.”

- Barack Obama

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKLC_qW0AgE





**BIG BROTHER IS
WATCHING YOU**

BIG BROTHER



IS WATCHING YOU

Military Commissions Act of 2006

Allows the US to put someone on trial as an enemy combatant in military court

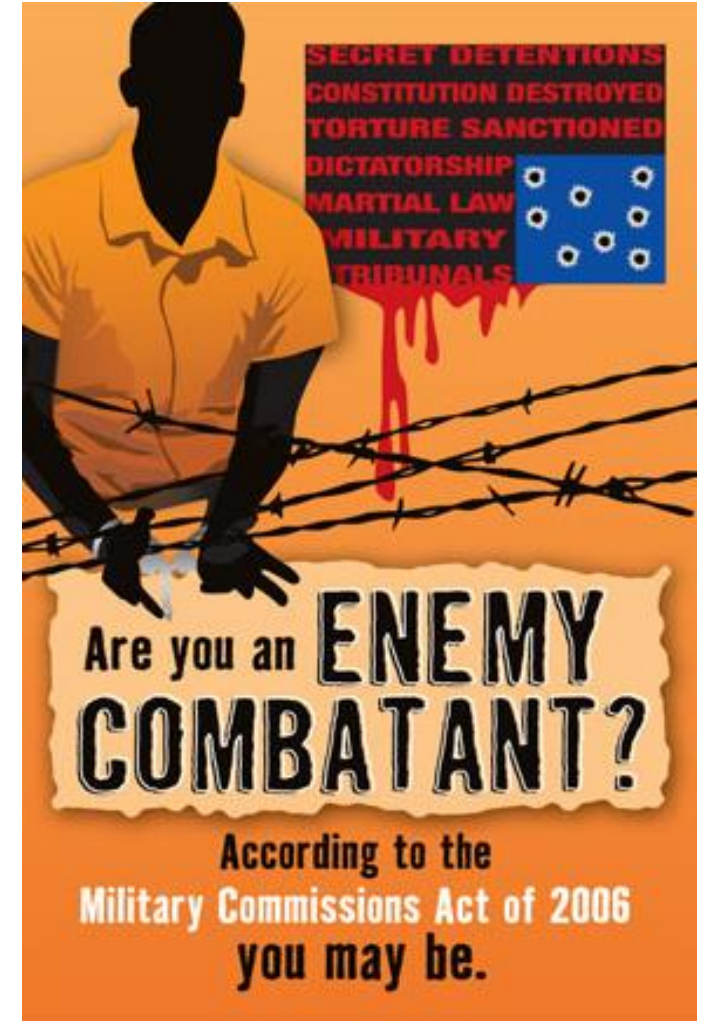
Controversy

Suspended habeas corpus to detainees

- Abraham Lincoln did something similar during the Civil War
- Fixed in 2009

The definition of “enemy combatant” is broad.

- Makes it possible for US citizens to be considered an “enemy combatant” for any reason



Guantanamo Bay & Abu Ghraib Prison

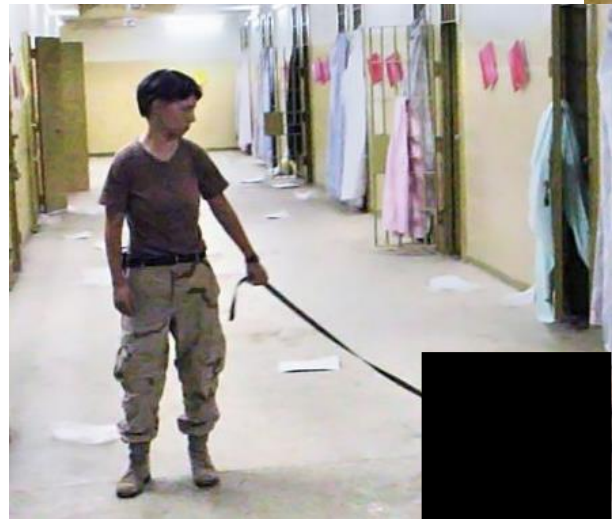
Prisons run by the US Army, CIA, and government that violated human rights

- Physical and sexual abuse
- Torture
 - Authorized by the DOJ
- Murder

“Black Site”

Secret prisons operated by CIA

- Poland first to admit they hosted black sites for CIA in 2014



1033 Program and Militarization of Police

Program to transfer excess military equipment to civilian law enforcement agencies

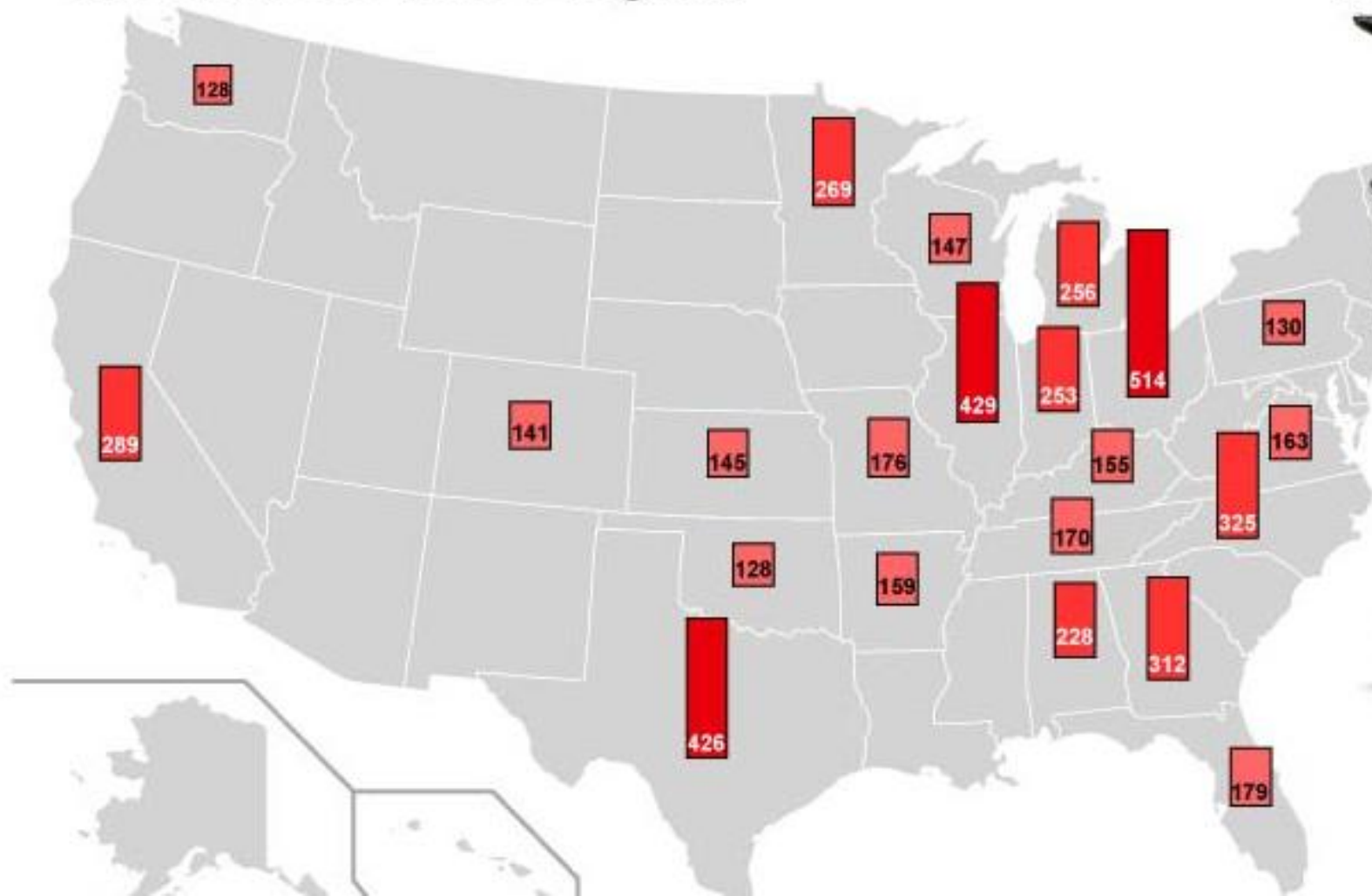






As the nation transitioned from fighting two wars abroad, much of the military's now-surplus equipment has found its way to state and local law enforcement via the Department of Defense's 1033 and 1122 programs.

States With the Most Law Enforcement Departments Participating in the Department of Defense's 1033 Program



Since 2006, the minimum amount of combat gear received by local and state law enforcement included:



432
MRAPs
(Mine-Resistant
Ambush Protected
armored vehicles)



435
Other armored
road vehicles

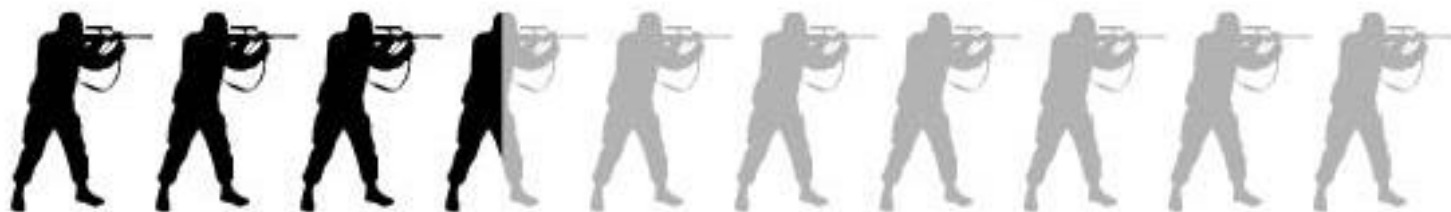
79% of all SWAT raids for 2011-2012 were to serve a search warrant.



50% of 2011-2012 SWAT raids were against black or Latino targets. (White targets accounted for 20%.)



35% of 2011-2012 SWAT raids were for targets known to be armed or otherwise dangerous.



44,900
Pieces of night
vision
equipment



533
Airplanes and
helicopters



93,763
5.56 mm and
7.62 mm
automatic rifles

Private Military Contractors (PMC)

Blackwater, now called Academi

- Mercenaries hired to protect diplomats and other security functions
- 20,000 – 100,000 armed security contractors
- Huge controversy
 - In 2007, Blackwater contractors opened fired and killed 17 civilians and injuring 20



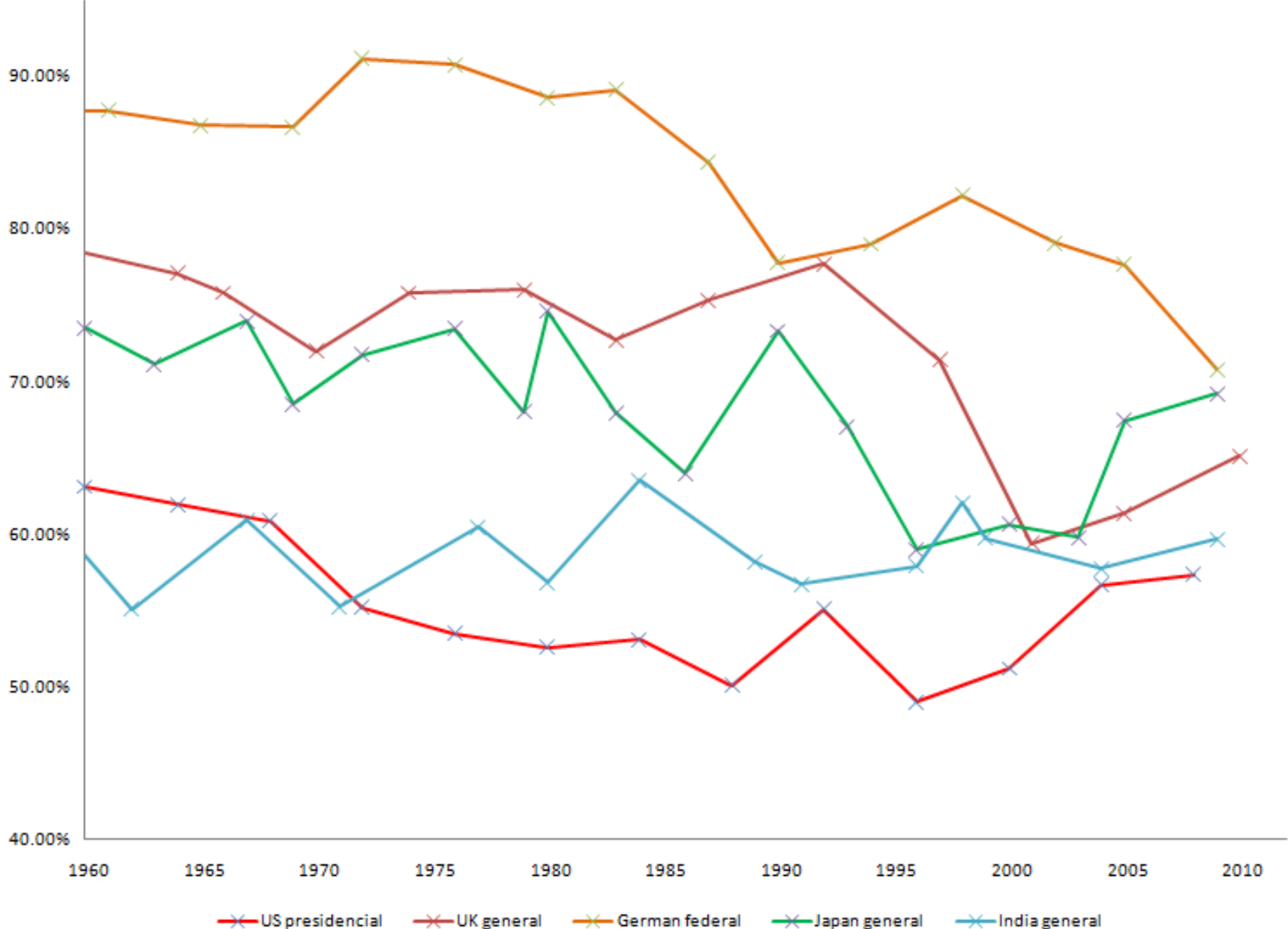
So what can you do about this?

- Be informed. Educate yourself.
- Participate in the democratic process

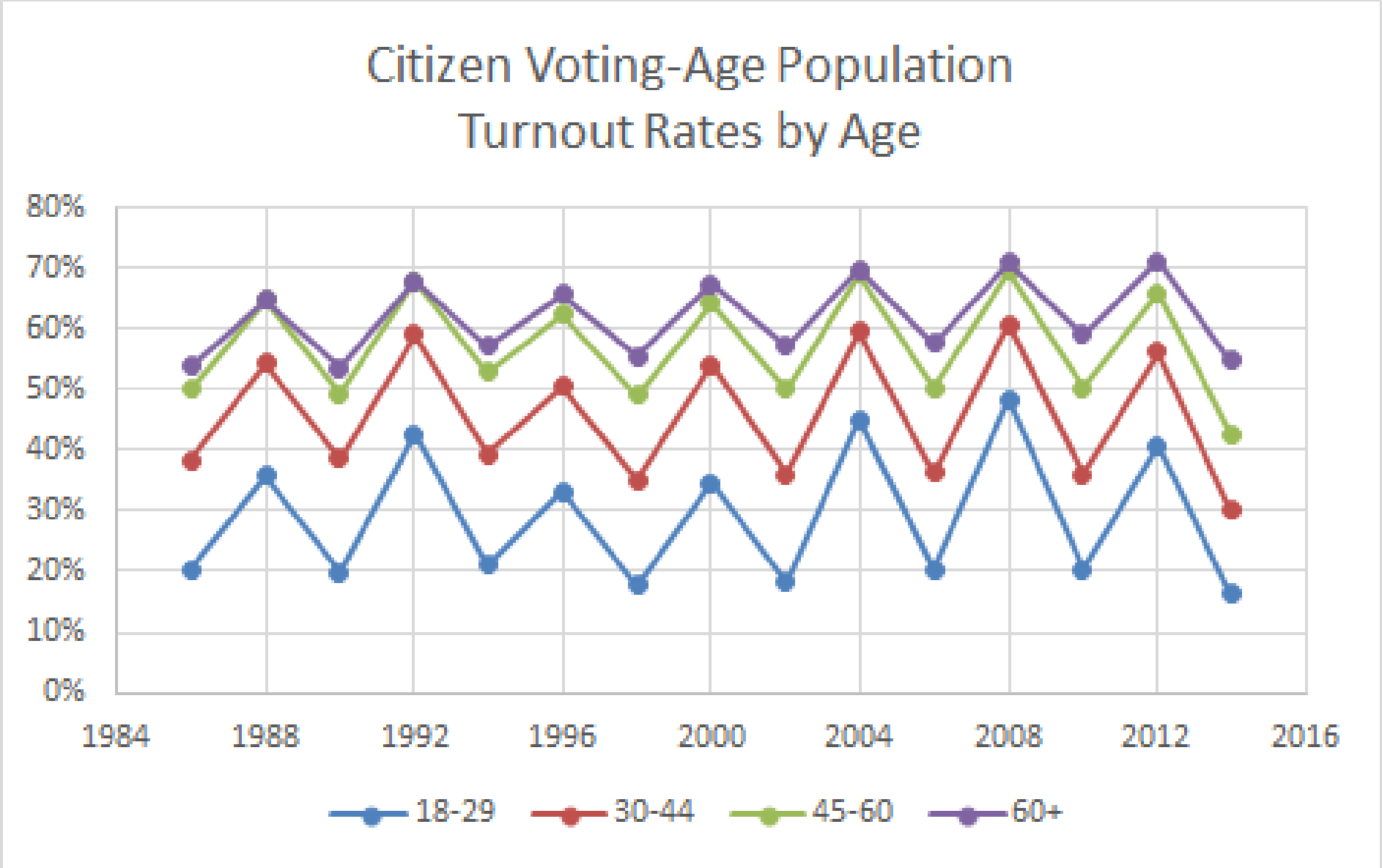
People should not be
afraid of *their* governments.
Governments should be
afraid of their people. —



Voter Turnout Over Time

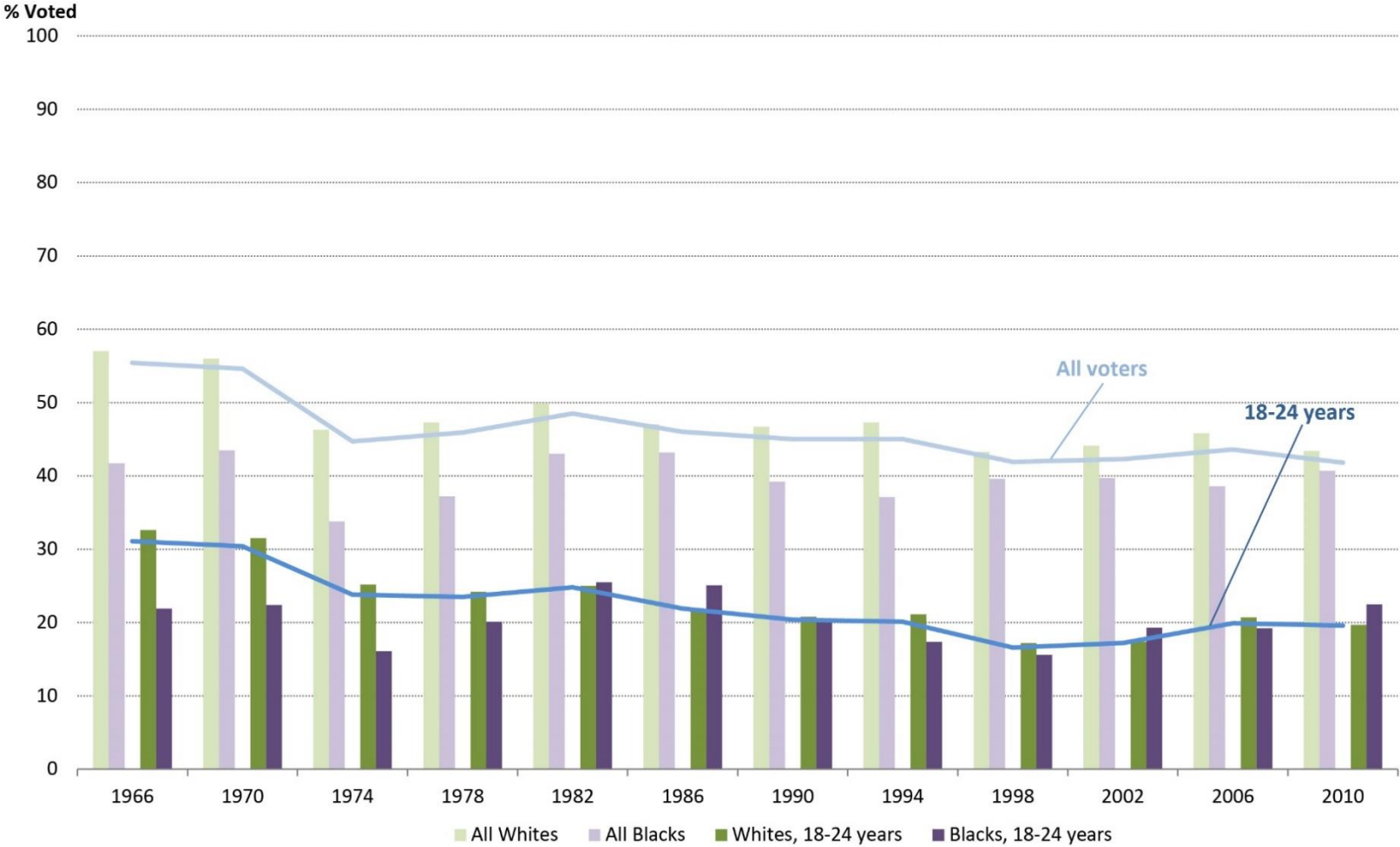


Voter Turnout Over Time



Voter Turnout Over Time

Percent Voting by Race and Age: Congressional Elections



Note: The estimates presented here may not be directly comparable to some Census products on voting and registration for two reasons. First, the population considered is the voting age population, rather than the *citizen* voting age population examined in most recent reports. In addition, the graphic shows data for people who reported they were the single race White or the single race Black, regardless of Hispanic origin. Recent reports show voting estimates for the non-Hispanic White population rather than for Whites alone.

Source: Current Population Survey, Voting and Registration Supplements, historical table A-1.

Available: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/socdemo/voting/index.html>

No country is perfect, but we're still a better country than many others.

It's been built over time.

It's your duty as the future to **maintain** it, not destroy it.