

Different Ideologies

Ideology: System of beliefs shared by a group of people which claims to present solutions to problems and plans for future betterment.

Ideology	Definition	Example
1. Democracy	System of rule by the people; individual worth is stressed and rights are protected; majority rules in open elections; civil rights protected by a constitution; all people are equal under the law; representative democracy (a Republic) allows people to elect others to do the work of running a govt.	
2. Totalitarianism	A system of government where the state has complete power over all aspects of a person's life; no opposition to leadership; all social activities, education, religion, etc. is controlled by the govt.	
3. Fascism	Extremely nationalistic form of government where individuals are less important than the state; law and order are stressed; extremely anti-communist.	

4. Nazism	Specific type of fascism developed by Hitler in Germany; blatantly racist and anti-Semitic; believes in racial superiority. (National Socialist German Workers Party = NAZI)	
5. Capitalism	System of gaining and promoting wealth through private ownership of businesses; supply and demand (free market – Adam Smith) set prices not the govt. or any group.	
6. Socialism	System where state owns means of production and decides how they are used; govt. determines needs of the people and then provides for them. Levels the social classes; Karl Marx.	
7. Communism	According to Karl Marx, the final stage of Socialism in which a classless society is achieved and the government goes away; Some groups identify themselves as “Communists” even though they have not achieved this in terms of Marx’s definition.	