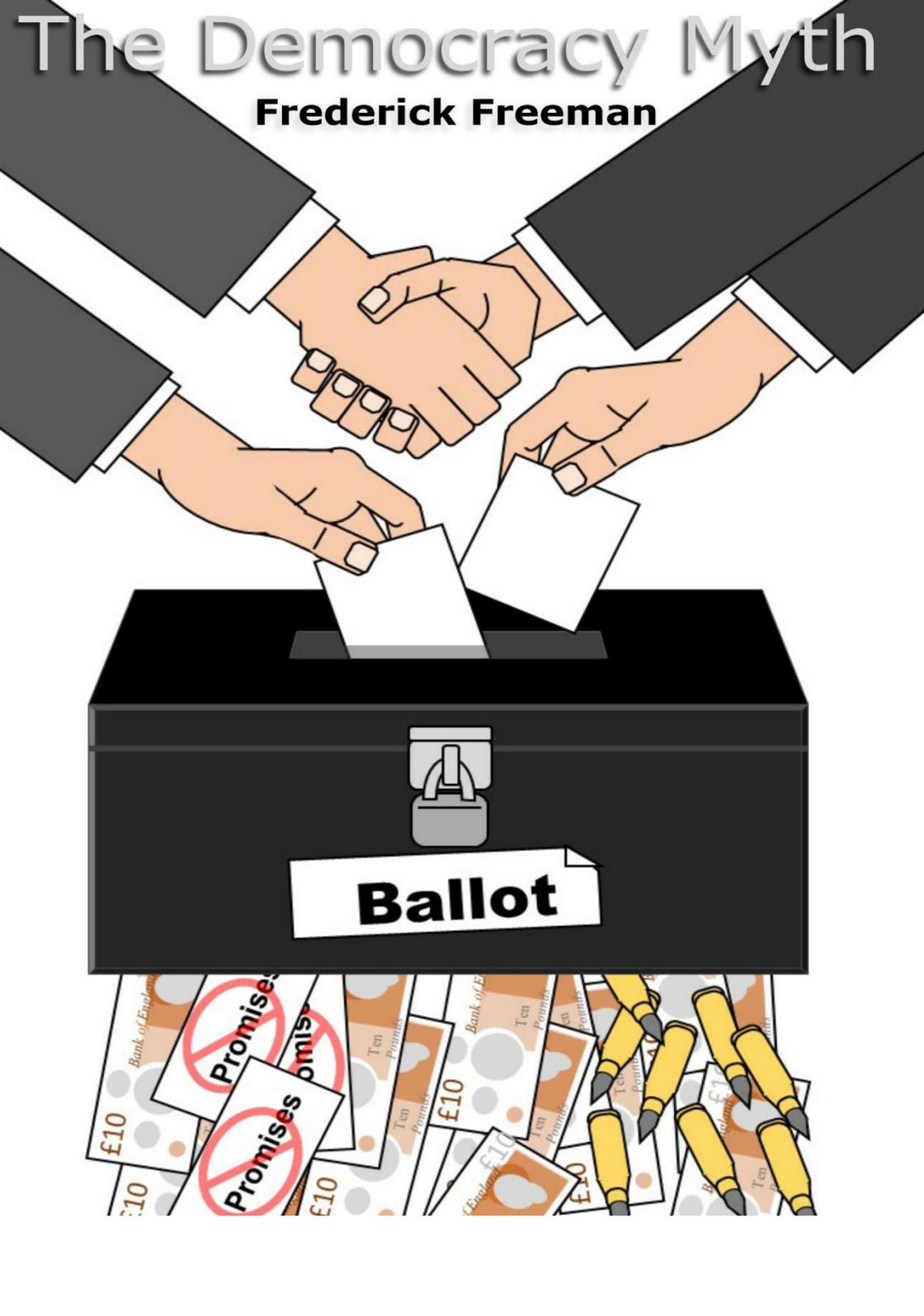


# The Democracy Myth

Frederick Freeman



# **The Democracy Myth**

**Why democracy isn't what it's claimed to be. How it fails to protect the ordinary citizen, has dangerous and damaging flaws, and what would make a much better alternative.**

**More importantly, this is an expression of the belief that there is a vastly better way to run the world that is practically achievable.**

**A Pamphlet**

**by**

**Frederick Freeman**

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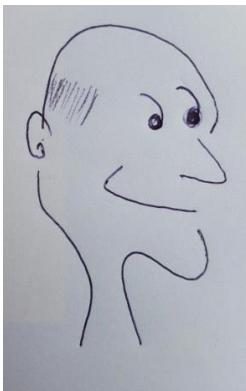
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## **Disclaimer**

*This pamphlet challenges many orthodox beliefs including those of both the political right and political left and does so in an outspoken way. Its style is deliberately provocative in order to stimulate thought, discussion and progress towards a better world. If you are offended by unorthodox views and beliefs do not read on.*

## About the author



Frederick Freeman is the author's pen name and it is used to protect his identity for very legitimate reasons.

Only the publisher's editor knows who Frederick Freeman actually is.

Frederick Freeman is not a politician or someone involved in government. He says *"Like lots of people who spend their lives working hard and trying to lead a good life I am repeatedly appalled by the behaviour of those in government and high public office.*

*What normal person would want to work with such ghastly people or be part of such an awful system? Yet currently we are told by those in the system that if we want change we have to take part.*

*It's easy to see why democracy is seen as an obviously superior alternative to other oppressive forms of government which sadly are still very much in evidence across the world. However, the belief that democracy is some kind of ultimate form of government strikes me as similar to the belief that the world is flat. It limits people's ability to envision a superior view of what the world might be and then create it.*

*Over time this has led me to formulate the views expressed in this pamphlet. I don't suppose many politicians or their sycophantic followers will like what I have to say but I hope that fair minded decent thinking people who are tired of the flaws and limitations of the current system will at least consider what's here and find a way to start a process of real change."*

## **Preface**

As many have no doubt observed, when politicians want to pose as if in a position of moral superiority in government they are very inclined to use the word “democracy” as an icon of good government or even as a kind of talisman. When they do so there is often a tacit assumption that democracy is in some way the ultimate way to govern and not only simply the best way but a markedly superior one to the alternatives. We call this notion “The democracy myth”.

This pamphlet argues that the notion that democracy is the ultimate when it comes to government is a dangerously limiting belief which stems both from a shameful lack of imagination in some and a deliberately obstructive stance by many more who are motivated keenly to defend their own vested interests.

Not only does this pamphlet downgrade the status of democracy to “the most sophisticated form of tyranny” it sets out to identify the principles and practices that could form the basis of a vastly superior form of government set on a much higher level than anything devised hitherto.

This leads us to state the primary purpose of this pamphlet which is to facilitate endeavours by those inclined to believe that there must be a better way to govern our world than the systems we have now and to form a vision of what that better way might look like.

In order to keep this document small and to focus on the subject in a straightforward way it is not written as an “academic work” with each point being supported by cited examples. However, the suggestion is that for **all** significant points being made the reader is spoilt for choice of examples and if he or she can’t think of one then they probably haven’t been paying attention to what has gone on in the world in that particular respect. Nevertheless, the aim is to give general examples and to supplement them

with materials in blogs etc. If you'd like to take part then please visit [www.the-democracy-myth.org](http://www.the-democracy-myth.org)

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## **1. Elements of the democracy myth**

*“The best argument against democracy is a five-minute conversation with the average voter.”*

Winston S. Churchill

Those wishing to defend democracy often cite three of its very valid merits, namely the following.

- Democracy is patently superior to most previously adopted alternatives such as: monarchy, aristocracy, totalitarianism, oligarchy, dictatorship, feudalism or theocracy to name but a few.
- Democracy offers a “safety valve” for misgovernment by providing a mechanism to remove corrupt and incompetent governments relatively peacefully.
- Democracy has features which enable the people to some extent express their wishes to those who would govern them.

However, a number of democracy’s defects are conveniently ignored, or even denied, by its would-be defenders. In particular, key defects are as follow.

- Democracy in all its common forms works on the basis of coercion rather than consent. In other words, the fact that a government has been democratically elected is taken as a justification for the imposition of its will.
- Democracy does not prevent the tyranny of a majority on a minority nor does it prevent the control and impositions of a ruling elite.
- Democracy is largely ineffective in preventing the corrupt use of resources by those in power.