

Rise of Democratic Ideas

Key Terms

- Government
- Totalitarianism
- Monarchy
- Aristocracy- nobles, wealthy families
- Oligarchy- few powerful people
- Democracy- *demos (people) kratos (power)*
- Direct Democracy
- Republic

Athens v. Sparta

Democracy v. Totalitarianism

Sparta

Ancient Greek City-state

Totalitarianism-Gov't. controls ALL aspects of society.

3 Groups of people:

Slaves (Helots)- Did all the work

Spartan Females- taught to be fit, brave and patriotic

Spartan Males- taught to fight, great soldiers

Athens- Democracy

- **Ancient Greek city-state where all citizens participated in Athenian government activities.**
- **All citizens were equal before the law and participated in government activities.**
- **Slaves and women were not allowed citizenship**

➤ **Athenians eventually abolished slavery and developed a direct democracy.**

➤ **Youths were encouraged to develop artistic and intellectual talents**

➤ **Period known as “Golden Age”**

ROME: THE FIRST REPUBLIC

Republic: An indirect democracy, where citizens elect leaders who make decisions for them. It was called a senate.

Twelve Tables: First written code of laws, so there was no question of what the law was.

Justinian Code: This was a more in-depth code of laws, much like what we have today.

Legal Ideas: Innocent until proven guilty, citizens equal under the law and any law that was unfair could be set aside.

Quotation 1: “The fundamental motif through all the centuries has been the principle that force and power are the determining factors. All development is struggle. Only force rules. Force is the first law. . . . Only through struggle have states and the world become great. If one should ask whether this struggle is gruesome, then the only answer could be—for the weak, yes, for humanity as a whole, no. Instead of everlasting struggle, the world preaches cowardly pacifism, and everlasting peace. These three things, considered in the light of their ultimate consequences, are the causes of the downfall of all humanity.”

Quotation 2: “We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights,* that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”* You may wish to explain the concept of unalienable rights and discuss the meaning of “just powers from the consent of the governed.”

Questions to answer

- Which state would you rather live in? Why?
- How can a “democratic” society deny rights to some individuals?

Sparta did not leave an artistic legacy as Athens did.

➤ How does this reflect the philosophy of Spartan society? Should a society make art a priority?

➤ How democratic a society was Athens? Compare Athens to our society.

➤ What are the similarities?

➤ What are some differences?