



CHAPTER 4 | Democracy and Politics

Parliamentary democracy is the result of the philosophical concept that it is necessary for other people to rule over others to ensure the smooth running of society. This is done on the basis of a political ideology; a set of related beliefs about political theory and policy held by an individual, group of individuals or a particular social class. A political ideology wants to be part of the state through party formation. The party's aim is to realise its ideology through power, with the state being the most important means. There are many different forms of government. There used to be the aristocracy. Military dictatorship and parliamentary democracy are more recent. What all these forms of government have in common is that those who govern, i.e. exercise power over others, have the power to threaten those who are governed with coercion and physical violence. The purpose of this is to force citizens to behave according to certain laws and rules. The police and other government agencies are at their service in this respect. The state, which is based on this principle, is, as it so beautifully sounds in English, 'an agency of coercion'. It has the monopoly to exert coercion and violence on its citizens and has no hesitation in doing so actively. It is unclear why people have come to regard this as the most normal thing in the world. After all, everyone, including civil servants working for the government, should at all times refrain from threatening or using coercion and physical violence against others. Why should this universal law not apply to them? Moreover, it goes without saying that coercion and violence are not effective management tools for moving people in a certain direction. Or as the American writer Ayn Rand says: "A rational mind does not work under coercion... a gun is not an argument." This also explains why citizens for ages have been using all their creativity to circumvent oppressive or unjust rules. Nor does it seem to be realised that by adhering to the idea that people should be governed, a state of slavery is actively maintained. In the end, in this system, no one is free enough to do as they see fit. In fact, what you have seen happen in recent decades is that more and more citizens have started to put politics and government to work in order to promote their specific interests. Obviously, this is at the expense of the interests of others. This trend has now led to government interference in all sectors of society. Everything is governed by regulations or is now under the supervision of one agency or another. We do not seem to understand that as long as the government is seen as an omniscient wheel of fortune there will be more rules, more constitutional freedoms will have to be limited and the state of dependency and slavery will only get worse. Isn't it incomprehensible that people imprison themselves in this way of their own free will? Slaves have an owner. That is the political and administrative elite; the ruling elite, including the civil servants. History teaches us that this elite is solely aimed at increasing and maintaining their power. This comes at the expense of those they govern. This governing elite is openly guilty of corruption, self-enrichment, nepotism and arbitrariness. Now it is no different than in the past. With us in Western society it is no different than in other parts of the world. Power corrupts. The continues



exchange between (former) politicians and administrators in relation to positions at public and semi-public institutions or at large international corporations, as well as the disproportionate rewards they pay to themselves, are a good example of this. These people are all unashamedly playing ball with each other. They are unable or unwilling to take any notice of the common sense of the citizen. Competence and integrity are not at issue here. This behaviour has nothing to do with conscious living from the heart. American Libertarian literature is unequivocal in the characterization of these individuals. The ruling elite and their officials are parasites. Economically, they produce nothing at all. They can only remain in their position at the expense of the real labour efforts of others. The government is overhead. It is a general economic law that a company's overhead should be as low as possible and, in so doing, be entirely at the service of the producing, i.e. money making, departments of the organization. Parliamentary democracy and the underlying political system are clinically dead. Evidence of this lies in the voting behaviour of voters all over the world. They no longer know who or which party to vote for. They float, because they have lost all faith in politics and government. As a result, votes become fragmented and the formation of government coalitions encounters problems. Representation of the people no longer works. This development is logical and understandable. It is the result of years of corruption, incompetence, malpractice, false promises and lies from and by this ruling elite; the new aristocracy. Politics and government have not been able to give us the peaceful paradise on earth. They turn out to be nothing but moral and economic fraudsters and crooks. All this is proof that the idea that others should rule over others no longer works. Modern citizens no longer allow being pulled the wool over their eyes. Exercising power over others is past its sell-by date. People have become too intelligent, too developed and too sophisticated for that. What does work, on the other hand, is a society based on freedom of choice and voluntariness. This society would be limited by the non-aggression principle that says that except for self-defense, don't harm others, don't harm or steal their property, don't break your word, don't try to coerce anyone by threatening to do any of these things, and don't delegate or encourage anyone to do any of these things. These principles are also in accordance with the natural state of mankind. The time seems to have come to throw off the chains of slavery and take control of your own life.