

The Rise of Facism

THIS IS WHAT DEMOCRACY LOOKS LIKE

AN OPEN SOCIETY: Characteristics include a clear separation of powers, free speech, and free elections. Individuals in society are well-educated about, engaged in, and consulted on decisions which affect their lives. Humanitarianism, equality and political freedom are the open society's hallmarks.

THIS IS WHAT A POLICE STATE LOOKS LIKE

Characteristics include controlling and monitoring the populace without judicial oversight (wire-tapping, email monitoring etc.), media control, and persecuting dissent. Police states can and do emerge in democratic countries, and depend on the consent of the people; the loss of individual freedoms are rationalized by the perceived threats from external, domestic, economic or terrorist sources.

THE FIRST AMENDMENT
 CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGION, OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF; OR ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS; OR THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE PEACEABLY TO ASSEMBLE, AND TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT FOR A REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES. PROTECT THE FIRST AMENDMENT, SUPPORT THE CBLDF

...including protection against unlawful discrimination, freedom from unwarranted government intrusion into your personal life, and the right to due process for everyone, are defended at all levels of government.

CIVIL LIBERTIES

..are curtailed in the name of national security. Surveillance of populace, freedoms of speech are narrowed.



Rather than assimilated into a homogenous melting pot, immigrants are welcomed as unique participants in the salad bowl of society, deserving of equal rights.



...Is held accountable to the local community, with transparent structures, and citizen involvement at every level.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Highly militarized, utilizing private armies and military bases that are outside of U.S. law. Little or no accountability to populace.



IMMIGRATION

Borders are militarized, efforts to purify the country of foreign influences deemed to be unfavorable are common.



Multitude of public "democratic" spaces, accessible to all segments of society for celebrations, demonstrations, and expressions of community.



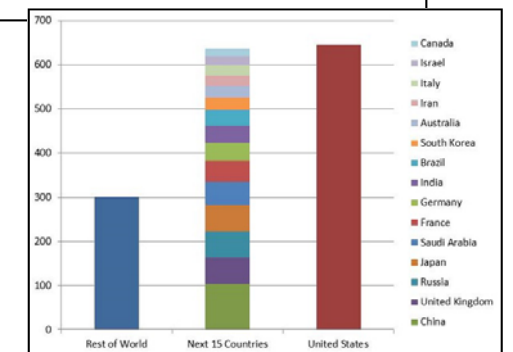
Quality of daily life is a high priority; high standards for education, health care, worker's rights.

NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Fear-based governance aimed at consolidating power, doctrine superseding science, permanent war the norm.

PUBLIC SPACES

Public spaces are increasingly commercialized, privatized and militarized, not to be used by "undesirables".



U.S. Military Spending compared to the rest of the world

Sources include globalissues.org, "The 14 Characteristics of Fascism", and "Fascist America, in 10 easy steps"