

## Our Liberal Democracy's Primary Values

### Quick Review of First Session

- Current Point of Inflection  
[c.f., President Biden's 10/19 Speech on Israel vs. Hamas]
- Two Primary Current Options: autocracy and liberal democracy
- Autocracy—Ancient and common; has standard playbook; is already happening here
- Liberal Democracy—New and unstable; liberalism's ends + democracy's means
  - The narrow corridor
  - Alice's Race with the Red Queen
    - Never ends
    - Alice has to be faster (i.e., society has to stay stronger)
- As a nation—do we want it to continue or not?

### Changes Based on Your Feedback

### Plan for the Day—Reading #1

### Priority Values for an Autocracy

- Authority and Control: concentrated in the hands of the ruler or ruling elite
- Stability and Order: as a means of securing continued rule; suppression of dissent; preservation of the status quo
- National Sovereignty, Unity, and Loyalty
- Personalism

### Priority Values in Our Liberal Democracy

- Order, Liberty, and Equality
- As Identified in Key Documents--Reading #2
- Key Takeaways
  - Order—comes first
  - Liberty—most addressed; most complex
  - Equality—ill-defined
  - Serious trade-offs

### Priority Values

- Order—Reading #3
  - Conceptually straightforward; not often addressed
  - Three types of physical disorder—addressed by government
  - Moral and social disorder—addressed by society
- Liberty—Reading #4
  - Not the natural status of states and societies
  - States tend to be too weak or too strong
  - Differs over time and place; has been of greater concern in western cultures

- Much disagreement as to what is appropriate
- Still being sought by women, African Americans, Native Americans
  
- Equality—to be addressed in Session 3

#### The Values' Relative Priorities Differ for Each Major Ideology

- Liberal/Progressive
- Conservative
- Libertarian
- Socialist

#### Introduction to Your Two Upcoming Projects

- Interviewing a Local Politician
- Writing the Preamble for the Constitution you want to see
  - Values
  - Structures and Processes

#### The Current Preamble

- Purposes
  - Introduction
  - Statement of Purpose and Objectives
  - Inspiration
  - Establishing Authority
- “We the people” establishes sovereignty; doesn’t reflect the operation of government
- Focuses on fixing the flaws in the Articles of Confederation