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Democracy is a Better Form of Government.

There are many debates about which is better: a democracy or a republic. They are used for the same thing in the modern world, but they have two different meanings. A republic is a form of government that makes the rule of law/a constitution more important than the will of the people. However, in a democratic government, it makes the will of the people more important than the constitution. They also allow the citizens to change the constitution easily and not have to rely on representatives' votes. Although a republic makes the law an important role in the government, a democratic government is better because it keeps power in the hands of the citizens, prevents a small elite from controlling the state, and creates a much healthier society because the people are involved in the government a lot more than in a republican form of government.

The first reason why democracy is a better government system is that it is the only form of government that truly follows the “consent of the people” (Locke). This quote is used a ton by philosopher John Locke in the book *Two Treatises of Government*. He uses this quote to suggest that the government should have limited power, meaning more power to the people than the government. There are times when the government could be corrupted, and if the citizens don't have power, then the government could be run by corrupt people like rich billionaires. Locke's other argument is that the people are the ones who create the government to protect their rights. This means that if the government becomes a republic, the law would be more important than the

people, thus the government would become a tool for the people who have a ton of money to stay in power. By keeping the power democratic, the citizens can make sure the government doesn't just please the people with a lot of wealth.

The second reason why democracy is a better government system is that a democratic system of government makes the representatives accountable to the will of the people, rather than there being a fixed set of rules that everyone has to follow, even if it's outdated. While both republics and democracies use representatives, they use them for different purposes. In a republic, the representative is used to protect the law from the people. This is explained by how, in the US, the Constitution is super hard to change because to amend the Constitution, the $\frac{2}{3}$ of both houses of Congress must agree. However, in a democracy, they are a way for the people to express what they want. Michal Sozan explores this in, "An American democracy built for the people". In that, he argued that the government has to be more responsive to the people, or the government would stop working. He also believes that Senate filibusters allow a small group of people to stop what the majority wants, and the minority are "abused (Senate filibusters) in recent years." (Sozan). This shows that when the republic makes the law of the utmost importance, the representatives stop listening to voters because they have no reason to, and just listen to the people in power because they can provide them with money, and the laws can be abused if the constitution/law isn't updated, because some laws could be obsolete as time goes on.

The third reason is that a democratic government makes society much healthier because the people have a say in how things are run. Even though they have representatives, a democracy gives the citizens the final power. An example of this is Switzerland, because Switzerland has a democracy. They have a parliament and representatives just like other countries but citizens can

challenge any law by getting enough signatures. They can also suggest new laws as well. This allows the people of Switzerland to feel like they are in charge. This causes less fighting between each other because being together is encouraged. They also trust their government more because they know that they have the power to change laws if they don't like them. This proves that democracy is better because it doesn't just rely on the constitution to keep order, but the people also have a say in the constitution, unlike republican forms of government.

However, not everyone agrees with this. Some people think a republic is better because it protects the rights of the minority. James Madison, a very important political philosopher, worried about "factions" in *The Federalist Paper No. 10*. He argued that a "Pure democracy" could lead to a majority of groups taking away the rights of the minority. Another person who argued against a democracy is Bernard Dobski, who said in his article, "America is a republic, not a Democracy". The constitution should be the highest power, so the government doesn't change too fast in response to what is popular. While it is important to protect everyone, in a republic, it could lead to minority rule because the minority can use the law/constitution to stop the majority from getting what they need. This is because in a republic, the constitution can only be changed by the representatives; the constitution can't be changed by popular vote. This means that if the billionaires get in power and stuff all the representatives with cash, then they can get what they want without pleasing the majority. Also, in a democracy, they still have laws to protect people, but just make sure that those laws come from the consent of the people.

In conclusion, both republic and democracy use representatives and have rules, but a democracy is better because it puts the people first, prevents a small group of people from taking over the way to improve the constitution/laws, and it also just makes society a better place. By analyzing all the articles, we see that the best government is the one that lets the citizens decide

on the laws. Nations like Switzerland show that when the people have a higher degree of autonomy, the country stays peaceful. Therefore, a democracy is better because it gives the power in the hands of the citizens instead of there being a fixed set of rules that are hard to change.

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