



## Democracy's Paradox: Social Hierarchies, Majoritarian Politics, and Inclusion

The paradox of people voting for parties that go against core democratic values like liberty, equality, and fraternity is a growing concern. This is seen in India and other democracies where many are attracted to strong leaders, free-market policies, and nationalist promises. This trend is partly a reaction to democracy empowering marginalized groups, which has triggered resistance from established social hierarchies. This resistance creates opportunities for majoritarian parties to gain support.

Additionally, other major political parties have failed to keep up with social changes, making old ideas about secularism seem outdated. To move forward, it's suggested that society should go beyond just tolerating minorities and actively embrace the diversity that reflects the majority's lived experiences.

What factors have helped social hierarchies stay strong even as democracy expands? How can other major political parties change to effectively oppose majoritarian ideologies? What can be done to promote a more inclusive approach to diversity in today's democratic societies?

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