

# Totalitarianism

- This falls under the autocracy or oligarchy category.
- You learned about these types of leaders during World History. Examples would include Stalin, Hitler, Mussolini, etc.
- How are those governments different from the US's democracy.
- You will be looking at examples, then coming up with a definition of totalitarianism.

# Examples

- Complete the chart on your own.  
Read the examples then answer the questions in the box.

	Does one party have all political power, or are there multiple and competing parties?	Is the government tolerant of differing opinions?	How much control does the government have?	Does the government use terror, media control, surveillance, propaganda or a personality cult to maintain influence?
<p>Saddam Hussein ruled Iraq as a member of the controlling Ba'ath party from 1979 to 2003. His government took control of the Iraqi economy and resources and used propaganda and terror. In 1988, he ordered a poison gas attack on a village he suspected of disloyalty.</p>				
<p>The Nazi party in Germany took power during the 1930s and consolidated all political power. Hitler and the Nazis used propaganda and mass media to influence the people. Additionally, they imprisoned political opponents in concentration camps where they often died from starvation, exhaustion, disease, or maltreatment.</p>				

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<p>The Communist party ruled the Soviet Union as a one-party government. Joseph Stalin seized control of the economy, attempting to build heavy industry and improve agriculture. Stalin's regime used propaganda, media censorship, and attacked religion to maintain control. When peasants resisted his reforms, he had them sent to labor camps, where thousands died from overwork or were killed.</p>				

# Differences and Similarities

- Identify 3 differences between the examples.
- Identify 3 similarities between the examples.

# Definition

- Totalitarianism is the practice of a centralized government that is intolerant of other political parties and opinions, rules with a single-party system, and controls all aspects of citizens' everyday lives through state-controlled mass media, personality cultism, economic control, regulation of speech, mass surveillance, and/or the use of terror.