

Democracy

**Democracies work best
– and survive longer –
where constitutions are reinforced by
unwritten democratic norms. Two basic
norms have preserved America's checks
and balances in ways we have come to
take for granted: mutual toleration,
or the understanding that competing
parties accept one another as legitimate
rivals, and forbearance, or the idea that
politicians should exercise restraint in
deploying their institutional prerogatives.**

**Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt,
*How Democracies Die***