

Democracy

The United States,
once a democratic pioneer
and a model for other countries,
has become a democratic laggard.
The endurance of our pre-democratic
institutions as other democracies
have dismantled theirs makes us a
uniquely counter-majoritarian democracy
at the dawn of the twenty-first century.

...

... it is the world's only democracy with both
a strong, malapportioned Senate *and* a legis-
lative minority veto (the filibuster). In no other
democracy do legislative minorities routinely
and permanently thwart legislative majorities.

Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt,
Tyranny of the Minority