

# Power

[I]n the usual sense intended,  
majorities rarely, if ever,  
rule in any country or  
social organization at any time.

Thus the fear of majority rule, as well  
as advocacy of it, is founded upon  
a misconception of the probabilities  
permitted by political reality. ...

To the extent that the electorate is  
numerous, extended, and diverse in  
interests, a majority faction is less  
likely to exist, and if it does exist,  
it is less likely to act as a unity.

**Robert A. Dahl,**  
*A Preface to Democratic Theory*