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# Destroying Freedom of Speech means destroying Democracy

## Outline

### 1 Introduction

Thesis statement:

### 2 Freedom of speech as a tenet of democracy

### 3 Factors behind erosion of freedom of speech in democracy

- a) Government censorship ~~repression~~ destroy free expression by controlling what can be said
- b) Legal restriction blot free speech by imposing regulation on certain form of expression
- c) Economic disparities restrict access to platform by crushing opportunities in public discourse
- d) Hostility towards specific groups by encouraging hate speech and discrimination
- e) Digital echo chamber foster polarize

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- tion by isolating individual viewpoints ✓
- f) Intolerance, silence & dissenting opinions ✓  
by punishing those who express (views) ✓
- g) Populism undermines democratic value ✓  
by suppressing opposition ✓

#### 4. Consequences of smothering freedom of speech in democratic societies.

- a) Reduced political discourse hamper civic engagement ✓
- b) Suppressed voices marginalize marginalized minorities and hinder social progress ✓
- c) Misinformation proliferates leads to distrust, confusion and division among society ✓
- d) Democratic norms weaken as tolerance and diversity of opinion diminishes. ✓
- e) Creativity and critical thinking suffers as individual fear to express ideas. ✓
- f) Trust erosion undermines democracy as institutional faith wanes. ✓

#### 5. Remedies to safeguard freedom of speech and preserve democracy.

- a) Encouraging open dialogue by creating space for debate. ✓
- b) Ensuring citizen's access to government information for transparency. ✓
- c) Supporting independent journalism for accountability and informed public. ✓

#### 6. Conclusion