

still defines its politics as a liberating movement that is class neutral, and appeals to justice and fairness. The modern socialist and statist mandate rejects the class nature of socialism and appeals to a moral and Christian doctrine, namely the striving to build public goods while enforcing charity and love of fellow men. To achieve such aims it relies far more on regulation and redistribution than its predecessors, which followed nationalization policies. Modern social democracy and its statist form attempts not the overthrow of capitalism but its metamorphosis into an egalitarian state managed entity.²⁰⁰

As with all organising philosophies, modern socialism or statism is a context driven belief system. Socialism has accepted the Weberian notion of legal-rational institutional authority where authority rests on justice and democracy and has fused it with vote gaining policies of redistribution and welfare.²⁰¹ How enlightened, intelligent, transparent and effective this process has been, should be a point of much debate and conjecture.

In so doing socialism has quite certainly usurped many liberal principles and reapplied them to further the principles of equality and private property appropriation. Democratic institutions (at least in name) and institutions which define a market economy have been fused with socialist ideology raising the interesting point that ideologies such as statism can become progressively democratic in rhetoric whilst remaining largely undemocratic in their actual policies. Or in the case of some jurisdictions these institutions become hostage to 'hyperdemocracy' wherein detached, informed opinions and non-politically influenced decisions becomes impossible.²⁰² For modern statist the efficiency of the system is not important. Due process including legal rationality and equality of justice is the ideological bedrock of modern society.

JUSTICE

Justice and democracy are terms, which like ideology, are temporally based and mutate over time. Modern democracy for instance is radically different than past forms or understandings. Most past forms were exclusionary, aristocratic and non-egalitarian and a

method to keep the general 'aristocratic' peace. Modern democracy is a complicated subject with representative institutions and processes, direct elections, polls, unelected judicial interpretations of institutionally mandated statutes and regulations and a massive redistribution of wealth between age groups, regions, and ethnicities being some of its main characteristics.²⁰³ Democracy is really non-existent in its meaning of rule by the many, since it is institutionally constrained and compromised between checks, balances and filters and there are social and cultural limitations to its implementability. Such a mixture necessarily complicates what is meant by 'Justice'.

Like democracy justice has mutated and evolved into a set of concepts that bear little resemblance to earlier philosophical musings. In the modern world justice can be described as a set of normative principles that inquires about the relationship between the state and individual and between individuals in which society would take an interest. It deals with the exercise of power by the state and what rights individuals can claim from the state. Criminal and civil law cover actions limiting what individuals may do to one another. Different eras will dictate different views on rights, obligations, race, creed, religion and other principles, which underpin the greater concept of justice.²⁰⁴

Together justice and democracy help shape and frame the ideological context of modern statism and socialism as statism progresses from a protest movement against unaccountable power to a movement that embraces institutions that support its main premise of fraternity and equality.²⁰⁵ Even within the context of globalization and regionalization the solidification of the state and its authority and the socialization of its citizenry to accept its precepts of justice and democracy have allowed government's to pursue new socialist ideals that appeal across class, race and region. Justice in effect supports the democratic yearning for equality, sameness, and relativity.

EQUALITY

Current national statism refocuses the state towards egalitarianism, the Rousseauian concept of human goodness and the derivative