

Student Essay on 1984

1984 by George Orwell

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Contents

[Student Essay on 1984.....1](#)

[Contents.....2](#)

[Essay.....3](#)



Essay

The success of any society relies on the ignorance of the bulk of the society. Orwell, in "1984", creates a society full of ignorance. Through ignorance, there is gullibility, and therefore fear can easily be created. Fear is essential to the Party's control.

The society structure of Oceania consists of the proles, The Outer Party, and the Inner Party. The proles make up "85 per cent of the population". Winston argues that "If there is hope, it lies in the proles" because no one else could organize a rebellion in a world that lacks all privacy. However, "the proles [are] natural inferiors" instead of rebelling in any way, "they [have] reverted to a style of life that appeared to be natural to them".

The proles are kept in a constant state of fear so it is "not difficult" "to keep them in control". Winston, however, believes that the proles could overthrow the Party if only they would "rise up" they "could blow the Party to pieces". The proles can assemble in great masses, and simply push the Party out. Then again, they don't know anything about the Party, as it is "not desirable that the proles should have strong political feelings".

Winston argues that "until they become conscious they will never rebel, and until they have rebelled they cannot become conscious". They are "kept in subjection, like animals" and fed a few simple lies that they believe because they do not have the capability to be able to believe anything else. So in reality, they will never rebel because they don't know they can. No one has told them, or made them believe they can. They have been made to believe that they are nothing but mere animals.

Orwell creates the so-called perfect society. The bulk of the population are ignorant, and gullible, thus the Party will inevitably succeed.