



What does Liberty mean?

*“Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote”*

**Benjamin Franklin (?)**

↳ Often attributed to Franklin, but there is some argument this is a modernization of his words, if not an outright fabrication. It is not found in any of his surviving writings, and “lunch” is not known to have appeared anywhere in English Literature before 1820

At its core, **Liberty** may be defined as:

↳ the state of being free within society from oppressive restrictions imposed by authority on one's way of life, behavior, or political views.

As put forth in the Declaration of Independence, Liberty involves the responsible use of freedom under the rule of law without depriving anyone else of their freedom.

The term “liberty” appears in the due process clauses of both the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the Constitution.

↳ As used in the Constitution, liberty means freedom from arbitrary and unreasonable restraint upon an individual. Freedom from restraint refers to more than just physical restraint, but also the freedom to act according to one's own will.

## **What is the difference between Liberty and Freedom?**

“Liberty” involves the responsible use of freedom under the rule of law without depriving anyone else of their freedom, while “freedom” is broader in that it represents a total lack of restraint or the unrestrained ability to fulfill one's desires.