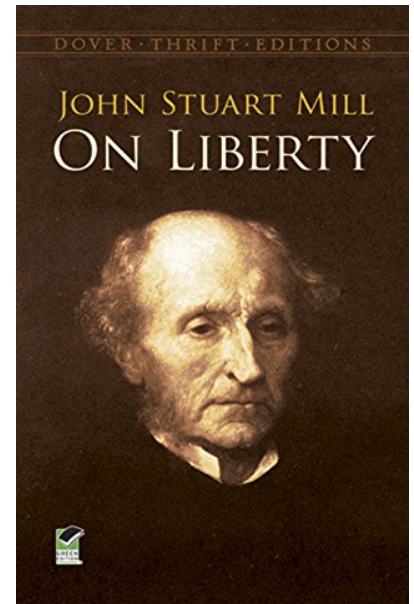


# On Liberty Book Summary (PDF) by John Stuart Mill

Ready to learn the most important takeaways from On Liberty in less than two minutes? Keep reading!



## Why This Book Matters:

Written by one of the most influential philosophers of classical liberalism, John S. Mill's *On Liberty* is a classical work on how to balance a modern liberal society and authority with the individuals living in it.

## The Big Takeaways:

1. **Democracy can turn into a social tyranny.**
  1. If While democracy may seem like the best option for governance, it still can fail to provide personal protection to all who are governed.
2. **Limiting the freedom of thinking and expression is the ultimate crime against humanity**
  1. No nation should suppress differing beliefs, even if they go against social norms.
3. **Nations can only guarantee 100% individual freedom when rational principles control it.**

1. Instead of relying on irrational feelings and societal norms, the use of the rational tenets alone guarantees an environment free for everyone.
4. **Interfering on an individual's freedom should only be used to prevent harm to himself or others.**
  1. Authorities can only exercise restrictions on individuals if they are a threat to well-being.
5. **All individuals should be allowed to exercise their free will.**
  1. Every individual is well within their rights to practice free will. Neither government nor people should be allowed to impose their will on others.

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